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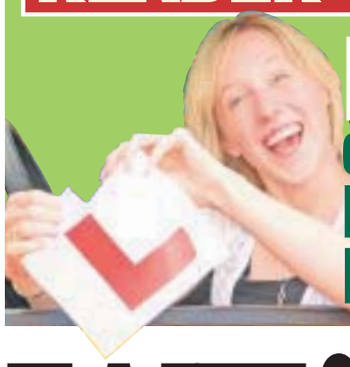
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Cash incentives to deter immigrants

PEOPLE trying to get into the UK illegally are to be offered cash and a plane-ride home to discourage them from attempting to cross the Channel.

The Global Calais Scheme – which could be paid for partly by British taxpayers – will be offered to people sleeping rough around the French port as they try to board trucks to Dover and trains bound for Folkestone's Eurotunnel terminal.

Under the scheme, migrants will be offered a ride home in an aircraft as well as resettlement assistance and retraining. The French government is also offering 2,000 euros – or £1,720.

British money will go towards paying for the flights back to the immigrants' country of origin.

By **NICK AMES**

The plan was outlined on Monday by Pierre de Bousquet, state prefect for Pas-de-Calais and the most powerful politician in the region.

He said the cash "will smoothe their passage in their home country and enable each and every one of them to realise their ambitions. Organisations are present in their country of origin who will assure they're looked after.

"We're trying to open their eyes to the illusion of their wish to go to Great Britain. The United Kingdom is not the El Dorado they believe it to be.

"The solution we advocate is voluntary repatriation. These people are deluded by the people-smugglers who have an interest in maintaining their illusions. The procedure is not simply to buy an airline ticket for each person."

But he added that genuine asylum cases would continue to be considered.

Last year the French pulled out of a scheme to introduce charter flights to repatriate illegal Afghan migrants, claiming humanitarian reasons.

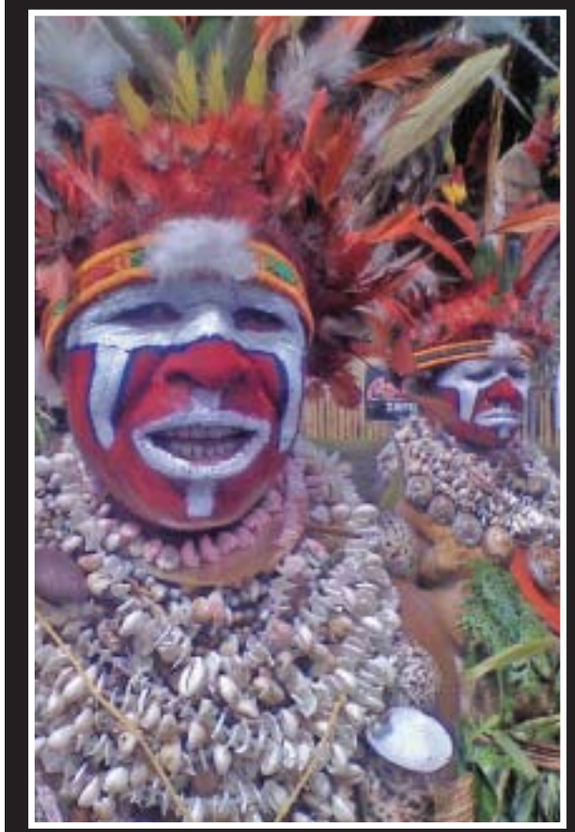
However, Phil Woolas, the immigration minister, has told MPs that the UK and France were "assessing the feasibility of joint return flights to fly back to their country of origin".

The plans have come under attack from the Conservatives.

Chris Grayling, the Shadow Home Secretary, said: "Why will offering people money just when they turn up in Calais stop more turning up?

"It will make people-trafficking even more lucrative and will simply be

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE



The smile of hope

THIS tribesman in Papua New Guinea has every reason to smile – his country has received renewed hope from Kent over the constant threat of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

Sandgate resident Naomi Morris was among a team of volunteers who created new maps of the country that will aid emergency workers in the event of a natural disaster.

Her three-month tour of the Oceanic nation required her to cope with rats and a bout of malaria, while travel between islands was achieved by way of banana boat, canoe and on some occasions even swimming.

Naomi said: "I was helping the people of Papua New Guinea prepare to respond to any disasters they may face in the future.

"These risks are very real – the country is subject to everything from volcanic eruptions to earthquakes and tidal waves."

• TURN TO PAGE NINE FOR THE FULL STORY



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Bay shock tactics are driven home

A MOCK car-crash will be staged in Herne Bay to promote the importance of safe driving to young people.

Operation Carmageddon, being organised by Kent Fire and Rescue Service, will take place at Central Parade between 1pm and 6pm next Sunday.

The event will also involve the police, ambulance service, coastguard and KCC road-safety officers as 'casualties' to be rescued from the wreckage.

Herne Bay fire-station watch manager Leon Dyball said: "Each time our crews attend the scene of a fatal accident involving a young driver we are sickened by the tragic waste of life."

Tamiflu collection points ease burden on doctors

ANTIVIRAL collection points are operating across Kent and Medway and the national swine flu service is taking pressure off the county's GPs.

NHS West Kent said 2,445 packs of Tamiflu were collected between July 23 and 28 and 42 collection points were issuing the antivirals to the 'flu friends' of people with swine flu.

During the same period, 27,792 telephone or online assessments were made through the national pandemic flu service across Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

NHS Medway said people should not collect their own antivirals but should send a flu friend – a friend or relative without swine flu – to one of the area's 25 collection points. Between July 6 and 27, 3,290 courses of Tamiflu were collected in Medway.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent said 2,372 packets of antivirals were collected between July 23 and 28. The area has 30 antiviral collection points.

If you have flu symptoms, go to www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu or call 0800 1 513 100. People with underlying health conditions, pregnant women and children under one year old should contact their GP.

'We must not create new lost generation'

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE Government has created more than 1,800 jobs in Kent in a bid to prevent another 'lost generation' of young people.

New figures show the 18-24 age group already suffers the most unemployment in the county and makes up almost 30 per cent of those claiming out-of-work benefits.

Communities Secretary John Denham told Kent on Sunday: "We know from past experience and from evidence building up now that the young are hit hardest in recessions.

"People felt very strongly in the early 90s that a whole generation was written off and there was a huge spiralling in the numbers of young out of work for more than a year.

"It took a lot of time for them to get into the labour market and we must not let that happen again. We have created these jobs so we do not lose this talented generation."

Mr Denham visited a job club in Dartford on Wednesday and announced Kent had been successful in its bid for a £10 million share of the Government's £1 billion future jobs fund.

County council figures show that in May 12,640 people aged 18 to 24 were unemployed in Kent and Medway.

In unemployment hot-spots Thanet and Swale there were 1,265 and 1,075 young people out of work respectively.

Asked why the young were suffering most in the recession, Mr Denham said: "Probably because someone who may be fresh out of school or college with little work experience can lose out to people with years of work behind them."



WORKING TOGETHER: John Denham with young people at Dartford's Spark IT centre

Minister for the South East Jonathan Shaw, the MP for Chatham and Aylesford, urged businesses, charities, community groups and councils to continue bidding for a share of the jobs fund. Abandoning a generation would cost us all more in the long run and devastate communities," he said.

"I'm determined we will not lose a generation of our young people to unemployment or lost opportunity because of the recession."

Mr Denham, who spoke to young people at the YMCA in Swanscombe and the Spark IT centre in Dartford, said those he met were ambitious with clear ideas about what they wanted to do. Not one of them was happy sitting around on benefits. Some were clearly struggling to find out what was available," he said.

"For example, one young man hadn't realised you get paid while you're on an apprenticeship, so the information isn't necessarily getting through. We've got to invest the money, create the jobs and take the time and effort of making sure we can connect the jobs to the young people."

Money from the jobs fund will allow KCC to create 700 jobs for 18- to 24-year-olds. In Ashford, Shepway, Maidstone and Dover, where in May this year 2,605 young people were out of work, a further 300 jobs will be created.

A group of academic institutions, the Gateway Knowledge Alliance for North Kent, successfully bid for 600 jobs for Gravesham, Dartford and Swale. In Medway, the council will provide almost 200 jobs and Thanet council won funding for 119.

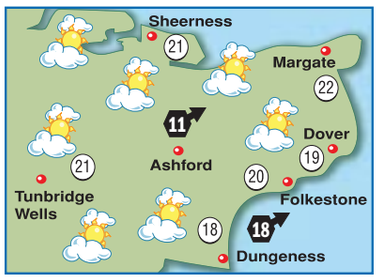
Sarah Hohler, KCC's cabinet member for children, families and education, said statistics for June showed a fall in the number of unemployed 18- to 24-year-olds.

"We are focusing on early intervention such as providing vocational training and apprenticeships, world-class careers guidance, personalised learning and partnerships with education and business providers," she said.

KCC employs 250 apprentices.

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Kent today



TODAY: A fine day is in prospect with sunshine, although there will be a partial build up of cloud. Temperatures will be around the seasonal average. Moderate winds. Max temp 19-22C (66-72F).
TONIGHT: Largely dry, but with increasing amounts of cloud. Gentle winds. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	20	68	London	fair	21	70
Belfast	cloudy	17	63	Liverpool	cloudy	18	64
Birmingham	cloudy	19	66	Manchester	cloudy	18	64
B'mouth	cloudy	19	66	Newcastle	fair	19	66
Bristol	cloudy	17	63	Norwich	fair	21	70
Cardiff	cloudy	18	64	Oxford	fair	20	68
Cork	rain	15	59	Southsea	fair	20	68
Edinburgh	cloudy	19	66	S'hampton	fair	19	66
Glasgow	cloudy	17	63	Southport	fair	18	64
Isle of Man	cloudy	17	63	Swansea	cloudy	17	63
Leeds	cloudy	17	63	Torquay	cloudy	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.20am	Sunset	8.42pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	7.02pm	Moonset	1.19am	8.42pm to 5.21am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	09.34	5.5	22.01	5.6	10.27	5.8	22.51	5.8
Margate	10.18	3.9	23.03	4.0	11.17	4.2	23.58	4.2
St Mary's	03.02	4.3	15.30	4.6	03.59	4.5	16.18	4.8

Week ahead

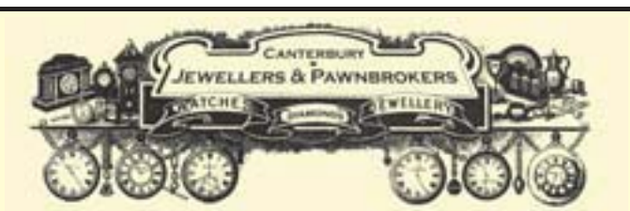
monday Mainly dry. max 20C min 14C
tuesday Light showers. max 22C min 15C
wednesday Rain at first. max 24C min 12C
thursday Some sunshine. max 24C min 14C
friday Heavy rain. max 25C min 14C
saturday Risk of thunder. max 23C min 13C

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When Topper hit rock-bottom

NICK 'Topper' Headon, the drummer with one of the most influential rock bands this country has ever produced, has spoken to ***Jenna Pudelek*** about escaping years of heroin and alcohol addiction and using his experiences to help others.

His rise from Kent grammar schoolboy to key member of The Clash and his subsequent descent into addiction and homelessness have given the 54-year-old a stark insight into life's highs and lows.

Now clean for five years and living back in his childhood village of River near Dover, Headon is throwing his zeal into supporting community projects and charity work.

He spoke to Kent on Sunday ahead of an appearance launching an open day at a supported accommodation project in Dover run by homeless charity Porchlight on Thursday.

"People know me for being the drummer with The Clash and for the charity work I do and the music club, but they don't realise and don't know that there was a time when I was really on death's row," he said.

"I was a resident of the hostel St Mungo's in Paddington and I am also a recovering addict. I know the importance of Porchlight.

"A lot of people are homeless because of drug and alcohol addiction and you cannot really deal with that when you are homeless. When I was homeless the last thing I thought was I won't have a drink or use heroin.

"I needed heroin to keep warm and I needed a drink to keep the fear away.

"When you are stable, when Porchlight has done its work and found you somewhere [to live], that is when you can address your alcohol and drug use."

Headon got involved with Porchlight after becoming friends with one of the charity's workers through AA meetings.

His Clash days were non-stop partying and drug-taking. Front-man Joe Strummer was forced to sack him as his heroin addiction began to spiral out of control. After he left the band in 1982 things got worse – his royalties of £200,000 (about £750,000 today) were spent on drugs and the drummer who once played to audiences around the world ended up busking and homeless.

He talked about the effect of re-reading an in-depth interview in a national newspaper earlier this year in which he talks frankly about his time with The Clash and the "horrendous" years following his departure.

"When I read it, it is another person now," he said. "It should not have happened to me. My dad was a headmaster and my mum was a teacher. Topper Headon reminds me of how I lost the plot. I lived for many years when I could not find my way out of a dark place."

He now returns to his old school, Dover Grammar School for Boys, to give talks. He laughs explaining how they all sit up in their chairs when told the middle-aged man standing in front of them was once in The Clash.

"For me it was this really dark period and I came through the other end," he said. "If I can stop just one person going down that road…

"With my attitude it was waiting to happen. I hated rules and I hated authority. I've always been rebellious just for the sake of it.

"I want to help the kids and give a little back to stop someone else going down that road."

Headon says he hit rock-bottom but after his 13th spell in rehab he "started feeling part of life again" and has been clean ever since: "I've been clean just over five years now. I've come full circle, I live back in River and I've got self-respect and the respect of others."

• ***To find out more about Porchlight's work, go to www.porchlight.org.uk.***





MAKING A DIFFERENCE: From left, residents Nick Wallis and James Feather, session worker Paul Shorter, Nick Headon, support worker Andy Cox and manager Roger Jarrett. Pictured right are The Clash, with Headon second from right

I'm proud to give support to Porchlight

WHEN The Clash drummer Nick 'Topper' Headon was asked by his friend to help promote a service for homeless people in his home town of Dover, he jumped at the chance.

Having himself suffered from alcohol and drug addiction and consequently ending up on the streets, he knew first-hand the problems faced by homeless people each day.

Headon was called on by his friend Andy Cox – a support worker at Porchlight – to open an agency day to promote the cause. Speaking at Fern Court in Dover, he said it was a privilege to be involved.

"I'm very proud to have been asked to come here," he said. "What Porchlight has done is really valuable. Once people are homed, they can look at the issues that got them homeless in the first place and deal with them."

The charity, which started up in 1974, has eight supported accommodation projects in Kent and outreach programmes across the county.

It provides a range of services for people with complex needs such as mental health and offers specific services for young vulnerable and homeless people

Fern Court gives people living rough a roof over their heads for up to two years and offers help to ensure they have somewhere to live when they leave.

Theatre fund is given a £100,000 helping hand

THE FUND-RAISING campaign for Canterbury's New Marlowe Theatre has been boosted by a donation of £100,000 from The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust.

The trust, which is based in Folkestone, supports a range of projects, mainly but not exclusively in east Kent, focusing on education, arts culture and heritage, amateur sport, community development, health and welfare of older people and support for disadvantaged groups.

Chairman of Trustees Roger De Haan said: "We are pleased to support the New Marlowe Development Trust in its mission to provide Canterbury and the rest of east Kent with an outstanding venue that can host large-scale high-quality arts and entertainment events."

The money takes the total amount raised for the new theatre to just under £2 million.

Speaking about the De Haan donation, New Marlowe Development Trust chairman Peter Williams said: "We are all aware of the incredible work The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust has carried out across east Kent in recent years and I am delighted the work goes on, this time in Canterbury and, more specifically, to the benefit of the Marlowe Theatre.

"It is a very special time in east Kent. Even during the credit crunch the cultural initiatives in Canterbury, Margate and Folkestone are bringing a new richness into people's lives and will help to increase prosperity in a hard-pressed community."

'Border police should be improved'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

exploited by criminals. If we had an immigration system that was managed properly and a border police force that stopped people getting in illegally, then Britain would stop being a soft target."

Susie Squire, of the Taxpayers' Alliance, also slammed the plan: "It's really an admission of failure and incompetence by the UK Borders Agency.

"Why should British taxpayers have to pay money towards people who aren't even in this country?

"There is no way this should even be considered."

Other objections to the scheme included the cost of sending people back on planes to such places as Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia as they are not well served by regular air traffic.

A UK Border Agency spokesman outlined the latest British position.

He said: "We are contributing with the French to the Global Calais Project, which persuades those barred from entering Britain to go home, which will ultimately save the taxpayer from the cost of enforcing a removal."



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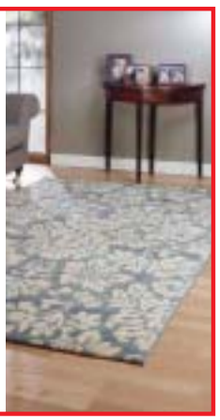
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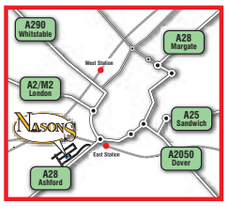
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Artists' recording brings down curtain on theatre

Film a lasting reminder to historic building

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUP of artists from Medway has made a poignant film to celebrate the crumbling beauty of a 19th-century theatre.

Final Curtain at the Theatre Royal by Dave Wise features the painting, poetry and music of Billy Childish, Lupen Crook and Oliver Burgess and is set to premiere in Chatham on Wednesday, August 12.

The film was shot just days before the theatre was demolished earlier this year and the artists said they wanted to give people a final glimpse before the beauty and elegance of its interior were lost for good.

"It was genuinely beautiful and you can see remnants of what it must have been like," said Mr Wise.

"We went up there because it is so beautiful and really just nice to be there. I thought it would be good to record that because no one else is.

"It would have been nice if some of the tiles could have gone to a local museum, but the demolition crew said they could sell everything off. Now it's never going to be seen by anyone in the towns again."

The Theatre Royal on Chatham High Street opened in 1899 with 3,000 seats and provided audiences in Medway with entertainment for more than 50 years.

It was shut down in 1955 and all but forgotten until the 1980s, when a campaign was launched to restore the building and reopen it as a theatre.

But in 2003 the campaign to save the theatre ran out of steam and the building was sold into private hands.

It was left to deteriorate and torn down this year after becoming a safety hazard.

Mr Wise said: "Billy, Lupen and Oliver performed their songs and poems all around the interior, downstairs and up, highlighting the stunning plasterwork and tiles, which have now all been lost."

The film questions why Medway Council never stepped in and attempted to save and preserve the theatre.

Mr Wise says the theatre was just one example of historic buildings in the Medway towns that are being sold off and demolished. He said regeneration work should make the most of historic assets.





Picture: DAVE WISE

MUSINGS: Musician Billy Childish sits among the ruins of the Theatre Royal's fabulous interior before it was demolished earlier this year

A spokesman for Medway Council said the authority spent some £500,000 a year on the two theatres it ran and was never in a position to take on another loss-making theatre.

Ten years ago the council gave the Theatre Royal Trust £50,000 for its fundraising efforts, but campaigners were not able to raise the rest of the money needed.

He said: "The trustees were not able to raise enough money at the end of the day and the truth of the matter is that if the theatre had been vibrant and successful it would not have closed.

"Latterly, the building was in imminent danger of collapsing and we had to agree to the partial demolition to protect the public from any danger."

Final Curtain at the Theatre Royal premieres at The Command House, Chatham on August 12 and will also feature live performances by local poets. The evening starts at 8pm and entrance is £3.

The film can be viewed online after the showing at www.hakimslater.com and www.davewise.biz.

Review will examine how councils spend your money

TELEPHONE and internet access to public services in Kent is to be scrutinised as part of a national spending review.

Council leaders will be asked to identify where duplication can be cut or gaps filled following the launch of the Total Place initiative, which was launched by Communities Secretary John Denham on Thursday.

He said: "Now more than ever, taxpayers need to see that each pound of their money is working as hard as they did to earn it in the first place and is meeting their needs.

"Total Place is about looking at all the money coming in, where it is being spent and what needs to change in order to make sure those services really live up to the ideal."

Kent is one of 13 regions chosen to pilot the initiative, with others scrutinising areas such as health, housing, crime, drug abuse and road safety.

Minister for the South East Jonathan Shaw, who is also MP for Chatham and Aylesford, welcomed the announcement.

He said: "In the South East and particularly in Kent we have some of the most deprived areas in the country. It is therefore vital public money is not just spent wisely and efficiently but that it is working for local people.

"We have to challenge existing practices and find ways to make life easier for local people.

"The better we can make it for people in Kent to access services, the stronger our communities will be through the recession and beyond."





SHORE THING: How Royal Sands will look

Seafront site is given go-ahead for construction

THE Royal Sands development at the Pleasurama site in Ramsgate has finally been approved.

Thanet district councillors have voted to give the scheme the go-ahead under new financial terms and a revised construction schedule. The scheme was given unanimous backing after the Press and public were excluded from the debate.

Councillors examined many aspects of the proposal, including the source of its funding, elements of possible risks for the council, arrangements for the monitoring and control of the build process and the flood risk.

The site – which has been derelict for years – falls in the Eastcliff ward of Labour councillor David Green.

He said: "In these difficult economic times I have no doubt that if completed as planned the development is good news for Ramsgate and Thanet generally.

"I am assured that there is a reasonable expectation of this by the already considerable financial commitment by the developer and the financial commitment by the Kent builder Cardy.

"There are risks of non-completion, but we are assured by the ruling group at Thanet council that the risk to the council has been minimised."

Suspicion

Cllr Green called for close monitoring of the work and said: "I am encouraged by Cardy's offer of regular meetings with residents and representatives to deal with any problems during the build.

"Thanet council has not handled this development particularly well over the past five years and this has caused suspicion and stress among Ramsgate residents.

"The ruling group's refusal to allow discussion in public at the council meeting unnecessarily fuels that suspicion. However, the decision to proceed offers a fresh opportunity that should be grasped by all concerned."

Town mourns loss of soldier killed in Afghanistan crash





TRIBUTE: Members of Capt Babington-Browne's family (left) at this week's funeral in Maidstone

THE county town came to a standstill on Tuesday morning as hundreds of mourners paid their final respects to the Maidstone soldier killed in Afghanistan.

By **ANNA WHITE**
anna.white@kosmedia.co.uk

Family, close friends, fellow soldiers and other mourners filled All Saints Church in Maidstone and nearby roads in the town centre to remember much-loved son and brother Captain Ben Babington-Browne.

The funeral for Capt Babington-Browne, 27, of 22 Engineer Regiment, who died in a helicopter crash in Zabul Province on Wednesday, July 8, was held with full honours and led by the Rev Canon Christopher Morgan-Jones.

A family tribute was given by Kenneth Wilson, which was followed by a tribute from Lt Col Andrew Noble, Commanding Officer 22 Engineer Regiment, who finished with a reading of The Ode of Remembrance from the poem For the Fallen, by Lawrence Binyon.

Captain Nathan Blencowe read a passage from The Gospel according to St John, and Captain Christopher Brown gave a reading from William Shakespeare's Cymbeline.

The emotional funeral came to a close with the congregation singing the National Anthem and Capt Babington-Browne's mother, Nina, laying a rose on his coffin which was draped in the Union Jack.

Exceptional

Ms Babington-Browne was joined by Ben's brother Daniel as they watched fellow soldiers carry his coffin outside, where the firing party fired three gunshots in front of more mourners who had gathered to pay their respects.

Among the church congregation was the Mayor of Maidstone Peter Parvin and his wife Daphne, Maidstone and county councillors and Mid Kent and Faversham MP Hugh Robertson.

Speaking after the service, Mr Robertson, who wanted to attend to pay his respects and was also there on behalf of Maidstone MP Ann Widdecombe, said that it was a personal and fitting tribute to the former Maidstone Grammar School pupil.

He said: "This is a sad day, but it does remind us of the exceptional sacrifices the Army and their families make on our behalf.

"I would like to say that I am delighted with Maidstone for turning out for one of their own.

"The service was beautifully done and was extremely personal. He came across as an exceptionally lively and intelligent young man. It is a great loss to the regiment, the Army and the country."

Dan Daley, a Maidstone county councillor, said: "Ben had already shown so much promise and we are here today to celebrate his life even though we are regretful that we will not be able to see his future."

Traffic was stopped by police as the funeral procession followed Capt Babington-Browne's coffin to a private committal.

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'Wet Wimbledon week' leaves brewers in good spirits for bumper crop

By **GARETH DORRIAN**

A BOUNTIFUL harvest of the vital ingredients which make some of Kent's finest tipples is on the way – thanks to a year of near-perfect weather.

Brewers throughout the county have revealed that an excellent return on hops and barley is on the cards. This is thanks to a relatively harsh winter and what is known in the trade as a "wet Wimbledon week".

Britain's oldest brewer, Faversham-based Shepherd Neame, is very confident of a huge haul of crops.

Senior brewer Stewart Main said: "The weather has been perfect, from the rain in spring which promoted good growth early on to the hot dry months we've enjoyed so far this summer. This spells good news for us as a quality crop means a quality beer."

Kent is the ideal place for hop-growing, especially the East Kent Goldings variety, with its warm climate and fertile, chalk-drained clay soil.

Simon Hurst is brewer at P&D J Goacher's in Maidstone. The small real-ale specialist supplies 25 pubs around Kent and Mr Hurst says that 2008 was its best year ever.



REAPING: Harvesting will begin very soon

He said: "We're busting a gut this summer again. The weather helps a great deal. There's a recession on, but our side of the trade is doing better than ever."

Dormant

Westerham Brewery in Edenbridge, like many other businesses of its kind, buys in its crops from farms nearby. It gets its supplies from Little Scotney Farm on the National Heritage site at the castle in Lamberhurst.

Farmer Ian Strang has 24 acres of hops under wirework at Little Scotney. He said: "It's certainly looks promising for autumn. We've had a harsh enough winter, which is perfect. This leaves hops dormant for long enough. This helps them rest and gets rid of bugs and other kinds of problem.

"The spring helped also and then we had a wet Wimbledon week, which is good news for hops. The amount we will get every year is hard to predict, but a lot of rain at Wimbledon usually means more."

Winter barley is planted in October and combine-harvesters have already started bringing in this year's crop, with the hop harvest due in early September.

Brewers are responsible for checking the quality of the crops and inspect them throughout the year.

Shepherd Neame's barley is harvested from 2,500 acres of farmland, which would cover 954 football pitches.

'Hop-walks' are carried out before the harvest at Shepherd Neame.

After harvest, the picked hop-flowers are sent to oast-houses, where they are dried and cooled in readiness for brewing.

Freshly-brewed beers are then transferred into casks and kegs, ready to be distributed around the world.

KCC first in UK to issue fines for roadwork delays

A PERMIT scheme designed to keep roadworks disruption to a minimum has been launched in Kent.

The initiative, which is the first of its kind in the UK, gives Kent County Council the power to issue fines of up to £5,000 to utilities companies that carry out work without a permit.

Firms that over-run the agreed length of work time will also be charged £2,500 per day.

Transport Minister Sadiq Khan announced the approval of the scheme on Thursday.

He said: "We are making it a priority to tackle the problems caused by roadworks and I am pleased to announce that Kent residents will be the first to benefit from a permit scheme.

"While everyone understands that roadworks are sometimes necessary, the disruption they cause is a massive problem.

"The new scheme will help tackle this by giving KCC the power to plan and coordinate roadworks and prevent work that would cause unnecessary or excessive disruption to the public."

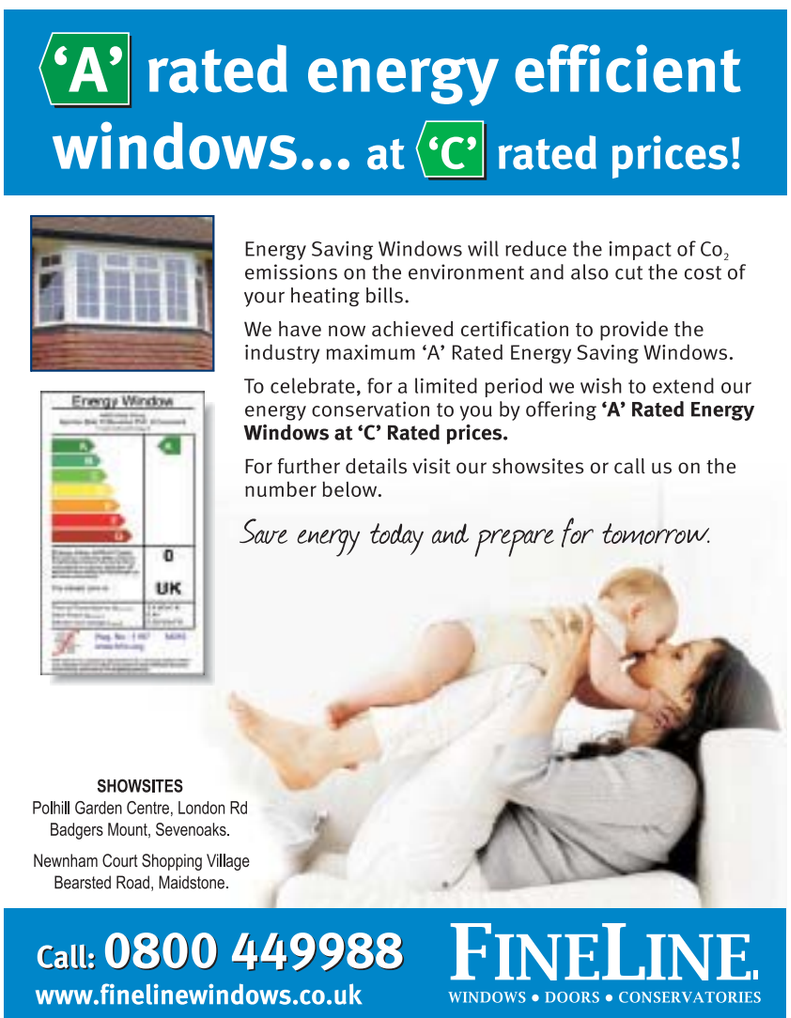
Reduction

The initiative, which will be introduced early next year, has been welcomed by the trade association the National Joint Utilities Group.

Chief executive Les Guest said: "We have worked very closely with Kent over the last year to ensure the proposal is workable, fair and efficient at addressing its aim – the reduction of congestion.

"We are particularly pleased that it focuses on works on the busiest streets, therefore allowing utilities to prioritise those jobs that have the largest impact on congestion while allowing flexibility to work economically on other works as demanded by our regulators and customers."





Desmond Tutu joins in ruby wedding party

ONE of the world's most important clergymen was the special guest at a service held in a Kent village church.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu was at the service commemorating the ruby wedding of Tilmanstone residents Sally and David Williams.

The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize-winner, who is also the first black head of the Anglican Church in South Africa, invited children in the congregation to give him 'high fives'.

In his address he spoke of the inspiration of Nelson Mandela, who was appointed president of his country after the end of apartheid.

Archbishop Tutu and his wife Leah were guests of the Williams family.

He has known Mrs Williams for a long time – she is a trustee of his UK Foundation, which helps build tolerance and understanding among communities.

Mr Williams said: "My wife was just 12 or 13 when she was a parishioner at St Alban's Church in Golders Green.

"We were married there, but that was in 1969 – a few years after he had left.

"Desmond Tutu was training as a curate there and they kept in touch. When we had the idea of celebrating our 40th anniversary we invited him and his wife over for the special service.

"He stayed with us and thoroughly enjoyed himself.

"He is a very personable, likeable individual and everyone in the village congregation was keen to meet him.

"He is particularly fond of children and that really did come across in the church service."

WIN Superbikes tickets and Bavaria alcohol-free beer

WITH summer come lighter evenings and warmer weather that conspire to tempt you into a social life you'd happily sacrifice in the winter.

But while you'd love to sit outside and enjoy a beer or two, sometimes it's just not practical.

Thousands of designated drivers and people with work the next day are currently faced with the unenviable task of choosing the lesser of two evils: pints of sugary, soft drinks or consuming enough fruit juice to turn your stomach.

There is an alternative, though. Holland's Premium Beer, Bavaria, now produces an alcohol-free version that looks like a beer and tastes like a beer – the only thing missing is the alcohol. To find out more, visit www.bavaria.com.

To celebrate being able to have a beer wherever you are and whatever you're doing, Kent on Sunday has two pairs of tickets to the British Superbikes at Brands Hatch on Friday to Sunday, August 7-9, courtesy of Bavaria premium beer, as well as a crate of Bavaria alcohol-free beer to give away.

Not only will you be able to enjoy a drink without the worry of being over the limit, but you'll also be a part of the action as you watch the contest to take the title from reigning champ Shane Byrne.

To enter, simply answer the question right and send your entry on a postcard, along with your email address (if applicable), name, address and daytime telephone number to British Superbikes Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is August 4, 2009.



Bavaria

Question: Who is the reigning British Superbikes champion?
a) Shane Byrne
b) Leon Haslam
c) Cal Crutchlow

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If you do not wish to receive any literature, please write 'no literature' on your entry.



Mapping the way out of disaster in paradise



By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A WOMAN has just returned home to Kent from Papua New Guinea, where she helped map the country to make the supply of aid easier in the event of a disaster.

Naomi Morris, from Sandgate, left the UK in March to spend over three months in one of the world's least-explored countries.

Along with team-mate Morgan Riley, she was in Papua New Guinea to carry out volunteer work for MapAction, a UK charity that uses the latest technology to provide up-to-date maps showing the impact of natural disasters.

These maps give aid agencies an accurate picture of the situation on the ground to ensure they can respond effectively.

Naomi said: "Rather than reacting to an emergency, I was helping the people of Papua New Guinea prepare to respond to any disasters they may face in the future.

"These risks are very real – the country is subject to everything from volcanic eruptions to earthquakes and tidal waves.

"My work included consulting and training individuals – everyone from the National Weather Service and local defence force representatives to volcanologists and the British High Commissioner.

"Using MapAction's new Field Guide to Humanitarian Mapping, I could show these key individuals how modern satellite technology and map-making techniques can be used to ensure an effective response to a disaster.

"I also travelled widely around the country to assess how vulnerable different areas were to disaster risks.

"These included sea surges and floods that destroy homes and crops, risks to settlements and power supplies if a hydro-electric dam went down, and even the concerns of local people about the daily rumblings from a nearby volcano.



BE PREPARED: Naomi Morris has been mapping Papua New Guinea to make aid easier to supply in the event of a disaster

"There were some difficulties locally to overcome, which we managed to do eventually.

"We had to face a bout of malaria and put up with nocturnal visits from rats and other nasties. We also had to travel between islands by banana boat, canoe and even by swimming on some occasions.

"But there was also some down-time to enjoy ourselves by taking part in activities like scuba-diving and sampling freshly-caught fish."

MapAction is a UK-registered charity with a team of volunteers ready to react immediately to disasters anywhere in the world.

Kent spokesman Roger Wedge said: "We have highly-skilled team members who can combine the latest technology with tried and tested techniques to produce maps that provide governments, charities, non-governmental organisations and other emergency responders with vital and up-to-date information showing the real impact of natural disasters ranging from hurricanes to flooding or earthquakes.

"As well as providing a single reference for all parties to work from and that clearly identifies areas affected, the maps also show, for example, if bridges have been destroyed or roads are unusable, as well as the location of those needing help.

"These maps enable aid agencies to co-ordinate their efforts and to be more efficient in the provision of support and distribution of vital aid as a crisis unfolds.

"The team ensures that these maps provide as current a picture of the situation as possible by using a combination of existing maps, satellite technology and GPS and Geographic Information Systems technology, so emergency responders can be sure what they are looking at is as accurate a picture as possible of the real situation on the ground – information that can help save lives."







Watchdog's damning report on care home for brain-injured

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A CARE home in the county has been described as like a "prison" by people with acquired brain injuries who live there, the health and social care watchdog has found.

The damning inspection report by the Care Quality Commission on Hothfield Manor, near Ashford, found the centre was failing to provide the facilities and services it claims are on offer in its advertising and promotional material.

The centre, which is run by independent healthcare operator The Huntercombe Group, describes itself as a specialised residential service.

Its website states: "With early assessment and treatment we can provide an efficient holistic approach which aims to maximise physical, cognitive and functional recovery."

But in a report dating from April this year, CQC lead inspector Sarah Montgomery said: "Staff do not have the necessary training or skills to facilitate physical, cognitive and function recovery.

"When questioned about 'specialist services', particularly assessment and rehabilitation, we were told by staff that this did not happen, that staff at the home just about managed to cope with supporting people with personal care."

No one from the home was available for interview, but a spokesman said "considerable" progress had been made addressing the "issues" highlighted in the report.

Ms Montgomery found the centre was not fully accessible to people with physical disabilities despite advertising itself as a physical disability home.

"The grounds are completely inaccessible to wheelchair users [no safe paths], and wheelchair users cannot be fully independent in the home due to stairs and doors," Ms Montgomery said.

She states that "more than one resident described the home as a 'prison'."

Hothfield Manor, in Church Lane, provides care for up to 24 adults with acquired brain injuries and the report does recognise that the staff there work hard and care about residents.

CQC gave the centre a zero star or 'poor' rating and issued 'statutory requirement notices' concerning breeches in regulations, which if not met could lead to criminal proceedings.

The commission found that residents at the centre had poor lifestyle opportunities and choices and spent their days mainly watching television. They were also being given an unhealthy diet.

Shocking incidents were noted such as "A staff member said, in front of the resident, 'his family don't want him'."

Even more seriously, the health-care needs of the residents were not being met due to a lack of staff training.

"The home is failing to ensure individual service users' physical health needs are known or met. This places service users potentially at risk of harm," Ms Montgomery said.

Satisfaction

Staffing numbers at the home are too low, the report found, and the needs of residents were not being met.

"Staff have been inadequately trained," Ms Montgomery said. "Although this home is for people with acquired brain injury, staff at the home have never received training in this area… None of the staff are trained in epilepsy."

Concerns were raised that the manager of the home had failed to recognise "how significantly his home is failing" and that it may not be financially viable.

The spokesman for Hothfield Manor said: "Since the inspection in April, we have been working closely with the regulators and have made considerable progress in addressing the issues.

"The home is being supported by senior management and we are working hard to ensure that all matters are resolved to everyone's satisfaction within the timescale outlined by the regulators."



Town rocked as lilo goes up with a bang

POLICE in Chatham are quizzing locals after someone filled a lilo with inflammable gas and then set fire to it.

A massive bang rocked the area in Walderslade, sparking police calls from worried residents.

It happened in Yarrow Road, near a mini market, and at first police thought a car had exploded.

A police spokesman said: "It is described as a lilo. It seems someone filled it with a gas and then set fire to it.

"Needless to say, this was an incredibly dangerous thing to do and luckily no one was hurt in the blast, which was heard from a long way off."

It was so loud and heard from so far away that at first police patrol cars were sent to wrong several wrong locations.

The spokesman said: "Our investigations are continuing, but at this stage it is being treated as a prank but a very worrying one."

Refusal to free Biggs 'a personal vendetta'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

RONNIE Biggs's biographer has blasted the Government for refusing to allow the Great Train Robber to live his final days as a free man.

Biggs was struck down with severe pneumonia on Tuesday morning and was not expected to survive the weekend, putting paid to his family's hopes that Justice Secretary Jack Straw would reconsider the 79-year-old's bid for parole.

Rainham resident Mike Gray – author of Ronnie Biggs: The Inside Story – told Kent on Sunday that even if the ailing prisoner were given a last-minute reprieve, his quality of life was so low that he would not have been able to enjoy it.

He said: "People seem to forget this guy has had three strokes and a heart attack up til now, and all he can do is blink his



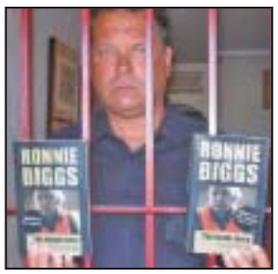
eyes. He's virtually in a coma – there's no quality of life there.

"We've been prepared for Ronnie's death since he last went into hospital about two or three weeks ago. His passing will probably be better for all because he won't be in pain any more."

Biggs was a member of a 15-strong gang that attacked the Glasgow to London mail train in August 1963, making off with £2.6 million in used banknotes in what at the time was the biggest robbery in British history.

He served 15 months of a 30-year prison sentence before going on the run in Spain, Australia and Brazil, finally returning voluntarily to the UK in 2001. Biggs was immediately re-arrested and imprisoned, and has remained behind bars ever since despite several appeals for his early release.

Mr Gray, who has visited the former fugitive every two months for the last eight years, described Biggs's sentence as "draconian" compared with what more violent criminals



LET HIM GO! Biographer Mike Gray believes Ronnie Biggs has served his time; the Great Train Robber is pictured below in his hospital bed

have received in modern times. He said: "On July 3 he had served 10 years in the UK judicial system – that's a third of his sentence and should have been enough for him to be eligible for parole.

"It's very frustrating that he hasn't been released and it's made his family and I very angry. Jack Straw has talked about Ronnie being 'wholly unrepentant' for what he did, but 10 years is enough for him to be released.

"He didn't hurt anyone and it seems like a personal vendetta to me."

Mr Gray was just nine when Wandsworth prison – where his father worked as an officer – played host to Biggs's infamous rope-ladder escape back in July, 1965.

He started collecting newspaper cuttings on the robber for a school project on journalism several years later, before finally contacting Biggs for the first time in 1989 via a Brazilian newspaper.

Mr Gray, who was one of only 10 guests invited to his 2002 prison wedding to Raimunda Rothen, said he did not agree that Biggs had shown no remorse for his crime.

He said: "Over the years Ronnie has said on many occasions that he wished he had never been involved in the Great Train Robbery. He used to tell his granddaughter Ingrid to always obey the law and to not end up like he did – does that sound like somebody who is 'wholly unrepentant'?

"I think the UK public still see him as the ringleader of the robbery, which he wasn't.

"He was pretty much the tea boy and the other members of the gang didn't want him involved, but he's ended up the most famous of them all."

Sunbathers targeted

TWO boys have been arrested after firing a BB gun at sunbathers on a beach.

The louts, aged just 11 and 13, were collared by police officers after taking pot-shots at girls on Sunny Sands beach in Folkestone on Wednesday.

The boys, who were hiding behind a rock, were arrested for possession of an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear and violence before being given a caution.

A police spokesman said: "Police have arrested two youths after reports they were seen firing a BB gun at Sunny Sands. The boys, one aged 11 from Margate and one aged 13 from Folkestone, were given reprimands and final warnings."

Key man's royalties

A LONG-RUNNING legal case about a song based in part on Chaucer's medieval work the Canterbury Tales has been concluded.

Matthew Fisher, the former keyboardist for Procol Harum, will soon be getting royalty cheques after judges in the House of Lords ruled he was entitled to a share of royalties from the band's biggest hit, A Whiter Shade of Pale – which refers to The Miller's Tale.

Fisher played the famous organ intro. He has always claimed he co-wrote the song, but singer Gary Brooker says the solo was his idea.

The judges ruled that Fisher would get only future royalties. The musician said he was "delighted".

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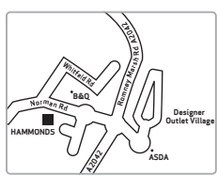
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WORLD-FAMOUS: Dover's white cliffs seen from Langdon Heights

Report highlights value of county's countryside to wildlife… and people

MORE conservation work is needed to protect the region's natural environment, according to a new report.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
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Natural England's State of the Natural Environment in the South East highlights some of the greatest threats to the countryside, including climate change and development.

The white cliffs of Dover are picked out as one of the best-known features of the South East's coastline. They are also of international scientific interest.

Alan Law, the Government agency's director for the South East, said: "Our report shows that, if we are to reverse declines in species and maintain a rich and healthy natural environment, we will need to manage whole landscapes in a way that both meets the immediate ecological needs of the species they support and provides maximum opportunity for them to adapt to a changing climate."

The report calls for a "natural health service" to be developed with the provision of local, easily accessible and welcoming natural green spaces to help reduce health inequalities.

Medway and Thanet were highlighted as areas where health prospects were worse and where residents would benefit from better access to green spaces. A Natural England official said: "There is a big issue around development associated with parts of Kent and the capacity to deal with the levels of development proposed. Large amounts of new housing are proposed and there must be sufficient planning for green space and infrastructure."

With the South East Plan proposing 654,000 new homes over the next 20 years, the official said: "There needs to be a better understanding of the environmental capacity for these developments."

He said there were concerns about the stress on water supply.

Natural England has designated the Thames Gateway, which includes much of north Kent, as one of four projects in which officers will focus on natural resources.

"It is because of the proposed development and also because it has a lot of important coastal habitats that need to be protected," the official said.

The report also mentions the diversity of species in the South East. The light, chalky soils of the downs provide some of the richest areas in the country for plants such as red hemp-nettle, spreading hedge-parsley and shepherd's needle, which grow among arable crops.

But because they are seen as weeds they are becoming increasingly rare, the report states.

Conservation charity Plantlife has identified six sites in the UK as being of European importance for arable plants. One of these is Ranscombe Farm on the North Downs.

The South East has 8,700 hectares of chalk grassland, which is between a quarter and a third of the total in the country. Some of the finest examples can be found on the North Downs near Folkestone and Wye, the report states.

In Thanet, caves extend up to 30 metres into the chalk cliffs and support a range of fauna and flora.

But, as the report notes, sea-level rises and more extreme weather such as storms due to climate change mean that coastal defences will come under threat.

"One of the main issues is sea-level rise and the pressure that is putting on the coast and coastal habitats," the Natural England official said.



Brian's antique telly ready for the digital age

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN ANTIQUE television set will screen live footage for the first time in more than 40 years when it is given a digital makeover.

Retired TV repairman Brian Maley is to receive a free set-top box for his nine-inch Bush 22a model, which dates from 1953 and is one of the oldest working televisions in the UK.

Mr Maley, from Whitstable, bought the TV from a second-hand shop in the 1980s and is being given the upgrade by Digital UK, the body leading the switch to digital television.

He said: "It's amazing how many channels you can get these days, even on a set as old as mine. I don't think the people who built the early televisions would believe how far technology has advanced since.

"I very much doubt they would have envisaged digital TV. The only channel you could watch at the time was the BBC."

Mr Maley, 70, worked for Radio Rentals for 25 years before leaving to set up his own business, Aerial Services Whitstable.

The Digital UK competition to find the oldest television – designed to prove no set is unsuitable for the switchover – was won by the owner of a TV in north London that was manufactured in November 1936.

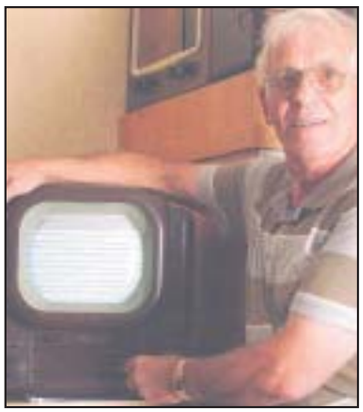
Mr Maley's television has not picked up a signal since the 1960s and can only be used when it is linked to a video-recorder.

He said: "It's the quality and picture of my TV that makes it so special to me. It was made to last.

"The set is not in everyday use but is a great example of early TV and is among my collection of some 50 vintage wirelesses.

"Even when it is converted to digital I won't use it every day because I want to keep it working as long as I can.

"If I overuse the tube I very much doubt I'll be able to find a replacement. That's what was so great about these old televisions – you could replace any broken parts and they'd last for years. Sadly, they're just not serviceable any more and you have to buy a new set when one breaks."



TUNE IN: Brian Maley with his 1950s Bush 22a TV, complete with nine-inch screen

According to Digital UK, no pre-war television was manufactured outside Britain, whereas today 99 per cent of them are.

The competition to find the oldest set was supported by Iain Logie Baird, grandson of inventor John Logie Baird and curator at the National Media Museum in Bradford.

He said: "Today most surviving sets are found in museums or in private collections. It's wonderful to find a Bush 22a still in private ownership and in full working order more than half a century after it was manufactured."

Between now and 2012, analogue channels will be switched off region by region and replaced with free-to-air digital television and radio services. The Meridian region will be one of the last affected. Visit www.digitaluk.co.uk for more information.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

It's a fair cop if you want to have a say

SHOPPERS are being asked for their views on what would give them greater confidence in the police.

The latest figures for public confidence were published by the Home Office in March, with Kent receiving a 44.2 per cent positive rating based on interviews with 938 people.

The Government wants all forces in England and Wales to reach 60 per cent by 2012, while the Kent Police Authority (KPA) wants its own constabulary to also be in the top 10 by that time.

Shoppers in Canterbury, Bluewater, Ashford, Folkestone and Tunbridge Wells have already been quizzed by authority members as to what would make them more confident. The roadshow will continue at the Broadstairs branch of Asda on Wednesday, followed by a stop at the Pentagon centre in Chatham on Friday.

The following three Fridays will see the team visit the Asda stores in Sittingbourne, Kings Hill and Gravesend respectively.

KPA chairman Ann Barnes, who was re-elected by members at a meeting on Monday, said: "The police authority represents the people of Kent and Medway on policing issues, so it's really important that we're talking to people and listening.

"We need people to tell us what they want from their policing so we can make sure it is dealt with. All the information from the polls will be fed into our Kent Police research unit.

"This is a chance for the public to have their vote on what would make them feel more confident in the police service, so please come along and talk to us."



MP kicks off Commonwealth role at meeting with leaders



CLIMATE ISSUES: John Austin MP, right, with Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed, who told the meeting how rising sea levels were threatening the existence of his islands

DRUGS, gangs and climate change were on the agenda when a leading county politician visited Jamaica.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

For four days this week, Erith and Thamesmead MP John Austin was engaged in talks on the Caribbean island as part of his new role as executive chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) UK.

Among those involved in the discussions – which also focused on poverty reduction, trade issues, education and health – were a number of high-ranking Jamaican officials, including Prime Minister Bruce Golding.

Mr Austin and his five-strong CPA delegation also had the chance to visit a United Nations climate-change project as well as meet students at the University of the West Indies and island police.

He was elected unanimously as chairman of the body at Westminster last week.

Mr Austin said: "The Commonwealth is a unique organisation that has proven to be a force for good in the world and I am very proud to have been elected to serve as chairman during its 60th year.

"The Commonwealth comprises two billion people in 53 countries, and while polls show that most people think it is a good thing, levels of actual knowledge of what it is and what it does are relatively low.

"I hope that during the course of the year we can ensure more people, and particularly young people, have an opportunity to learn more about it."

CPA UK's mission is to advance parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth.It is one of 175 branches of the association and its membership is made up of members of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, including Tonbridge and Malling MP Sir John Stanley and former leader of the House of Lords Baroness Amos, who went to school in Bexley.

The group's visit to Jamaica, which was due to end today, followed an international conference on climate change hosted by Mr Austin last month that was attended by parliamentarians from 44 countries.

Keynote speaker at the event was Mohamed Nasheed, president of the Maldives, who spoke of the threat posed to the low-lying islands by rising sea levels.

Mr Austin said: "President Nasheed has been a leading campaigner on the need for action to address climate change. Rising sea levels threaten the very existence of the Maldives.

"The Caribbean islands like Jamaica do not face extinction as the Maldives do, but we have already seen the damaging and destructive effect that climate change has brought to many of them."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Best cut in life reserved for butchers, says survey

IT seems the thousands of butchers in Kent have more sex than anyone else in the county.

They are also the happiest employees in the workforce, according to a new report.

Consumers were asked to rate the perceived happiness and job satisfaction of a range of professionals. They ranked butchers as the most friendly and contented.

Thirty per cent of consumers perceived butchers as happy with their jobs – a figure confirmed by 76 per cent of butchers surveyed, who reported feeling healthier, laughing more at work and having more sex than other workers interviewed.

Petrol-station workers, bank cashiers and those carrying sandwich boards were at the lower end of the survey, with fewer than 10 per cent of consumers perceiving them as happy at work.

Butchers are having 60 per cent more sex than other workers, the report discovered.

More than half the 295 butchers surveyed had no sick leave last year and 60 per cent described their work as fun.





Do you possess the ugliest mug in the county?

By JON COATES
jon.coates@kosmedia.co.uk

A CHARITY this week launched a hunt for the Ugliest Mug in Kent to kick-start one of the biggest fund-raising events in Britain.

But before you take offence and start arguing the virtues of inner beauty – they're not interested in your faces.

Macmillian Cancer Support wants to find the most quirky or bizarre drinking mug in the county.

For the Ugly Mug Amnesty, which it launched on Wednesday backed by KOS Media, it wants you to dig out old mugs lurking at the back of your cupboards or being used to hold toothbrushes in the bathroom.

When you've found your Ugliest Mug, take a photo of you holding it by your face and email it to the address at the end of this story.

Also make sure you tell us if it has an interesting history or funny story behind how it came into your possession. Every week we'll choose an Ugly Mug of the Week, which we'll put on our websites.

So try to make sure we can see the mug clearly in your photo and include your name, age, address, job and contact details.

Then a week before Macmillian Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday, September 25, we'll choose and publish the winner of the Ugly Mug Amnesty.

The winner will receive a World's Biggest Coffee Morning Mug from Macmillan Cancer Support and a £50 Coffee Gift Set from KOS Media.

Laura Thornton, Macmillian Cancer Support's fund-raising manager for Kent, said: "An Ugly Mug Amnesty has never been done before, but everyone has a mug lurking in their cupboard with a story behind it. We want to ask people to send in pictures of their mugs and tell us the history behind them."



MESSAGE: Macmillian staff highlight event

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's flagship fund-raiser.

Now in its 19th year, it has become one of the biggest fund-raising events in Britain along with Children in Need and Red Nose Day. Macmillan asks the pubic to host or attend a coffee morning, with all donations going directly to those affected by cancer.

Supporters are encouraged to visit www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee to register and pick up fund-raising tips, or call 0845 602 1246. Make sure you enter the code RNA 10 so Macmillan know you are a KOS Media reader.

Last year the World's Biggest Coffee Morning raised £7.5 million and the target this year is more than £8m nationwide.

But we are calling on all our readers to help make Kent the biggest fund-raiser in the country. We'll be holding a coffee morning for staff on September 25 and urge businesses across the county to join in, too.

Macmillan has 120 health professionals active across Kent helping patients and their families deal with cancer.

Their support means people do not have to face harrowing ordeals on their own.

All entries into the Ugly Mug Amnesty must be received by September 11, with the winner announced that week.

But you don't have to wait till then – get your entries in to be crowned Ugly Mug of the Week and see yourself on our websites.

Send your entries by post to Jon Coates, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, TN25 6SR, or email them to jon.coates@kosmedia.co.uk.



SOUNDS GOOD: Leanne (right) with her friend Rachael meet Dappy, lead singer of N-Dubz

Quex shows big hit with crowds

LUCKY Kent on Sunday competition winners met their pop idols on Saturday at the Quex Park Sound Island Festival.

A handful of winning readers got to go backstage and meet chart-toppers The Pussycat Dolls as well as X Factor runners-up JLS and N-Dubz at the event near Birchington.

Leanne Perry, 19, from Dartford, one of the Kent on Sunday competition winners, said: "The whole day was really good. I loved seeing N-Dubz perform and meeting Dappy was brilliant.

"The Pussycat Dolls were really good, too, and put on a great show. The whole festival was great and getting access to the guest tent was wicked."

The musical theme continued at the park on Sunday, with the Quex Spitfire Prom. This featured performances by the National Symphony Orchestra and Jon Christos.

Albie Park, from promoter Coz We Can, said: "It was extremely popular and very successful.

"Both Saturday and Sunday, all the ticket-holders went away very excited. We plan to do it again next year."



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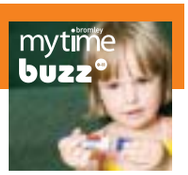
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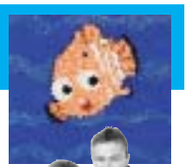
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Crystal Palace FC Roadshow
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The intriguing riddle of lady of the manor



STRIKING: The tile has prompted all kinds of questions about the lady depicted

MYSTERY surrounds the identity of a woman featured as decoration on a 750-year-old medieval floor tile, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The artefact, which features the head and upper torso of the unknown female, was discovered during an archaeological dig at the ruins of Randall Manor in Shorne Woods, near Gravesend, last week.

Experts believe the decoration may have been modelled on one of the wives of the de Cobham family, who lived there at the time, or possibly on a religious image from the period.

The tile was discovered by volunteer archaeologist Albert Daniels, who was taking part in the Kent County Council-run dig.

He said: "It's astounding. It's in very good condition and it's not worn. It's the best one I have ever found.

"When I saw the face, my first thought was 'Who is this mystery figure?'"

Built in Saxon times, ownership of Randall Manor passed through generations of the de Cobham family – the most famous member of whom was knight of the shire Henry de Cobham, who lived from 1260 to 1339.

Also a former Sheriff of Kent and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Henry was responsible for transforming the property into a beautiful manor house that has now all but disappeared.

For the last four years KCC has run a community dig at the site with hopes of finding artefacts like the tile discovered last week.

Archaeologist Andrew Mayfield said: "We dig there every summer and this is one of our nicest finds. As far as we can tell from the limited research available, these types of decorated tile are quite rare, so we're chuffed to have found it.

"Because only the woman's head and upper torso are on it, there is the possibility that we could find the other tiles in the sequence, although the manor was looted quite a lot back in the day, so they may well have already been taken."

The excavations at the manor are part of a wider programme of archaeology at Shorne Woods, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This summer's three-week dig, which ended on Sunday, also involved several schools and youth groups. Next year will be the last year of the project.

Mr Mayfield said the tile, which is of little monetary value, will be displayed at the Shorne Woods visitor centre.

He said: "These excavations tell us so much more about our past, about the area and about how people lived their lives.

"It's important to know where we have come from because many of the problems today have been dealt with before in the past, and sometimes we can use history to help us."

Interviews to help select new bishop

THE search is on for a new Bishop of Dover to take over the diocese.

It follows the retirement of the Right Reverend Dr Stephen Venner, who served for ten years as the Bishop of Dover and the Bishop in Canterbury.

The procedure for a new appointment is very rare and the Vacancy in See committee of Canterbury Diocese is responsible for the task. The committee has selected an advisory group, which works alongside two representatives of the Crown Nominations Commission and assists the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, in interviewing candidates.

Caroline Boddington, the archbishop's secretary for appointments, led the consultation process, meeting representatives of the diocese and communities to help draw up the job description and statement of needs.

The new bishop is due to be announced in the autumn.

Developers in running for £925m Government loans

Money could spark housing schemes back to life

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk



KICK-START: Building projects in Kent are on the short list for a shareout of the Government money

BUILDING projects frozen due to a lack of cash could get back under way thanks to £925 million of Government funding.

Twelve housing developments in Kent have been short-listed to receive a share of the money, which will total more than £40m if the companies behind them are all successful with their bids.

It is hoped that the funding, which is being distributed by the Homes and Community Agency through the Government's Kick-start programme, will create hundreds of jobs and help ease Britain out of recession.

The developments in Kent are for a total of 901 new homes.

Announcing the short list on Monday, housing minister John Healey said the funding – which must be paid back within five years – was only being provided where developers could not get support from other sources.

Repayment

He said: "This could kick-start work on up to 22,400 homes nationally and create 20,000 jobs on house-building sites that have been mothballed in the recession.

"This is not a handout to developers. There are tough terms to this deal, including repayment of loans within five years. And only builders who accept a realistic current market price for their land are eligible.

"I want to see builders back on these sites within weeks, so I will be calling on successful developers to pull out all the stops so construction can restart as quickly as possible."

All 12 of the short-listed projects in Kent will now go through a rigorous final assessment to determine which will get the green light.

The Victoria Road development in Ashford – built by Bellway Homes – stands to receive the most funding of any other in the county, of up to £8.8m for 70 new homes.

Countryside Properties could get up to £7.9m for 106 homes on St Mary's Island, Chatham, while Barratt Homes is in line for up to £5.6m funding for its 96-home Ash Tree Lane development in the same town.

Higgins Homes wants the least amount of any developer in Kent – up to £295,000 to build 52 new homes on the old hospital site in Maidstone.

Kent County Council's Tory cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, Kevin Lynes, welcomed the funding announcement but said a lot more was needed to help the country out of recession.

He said: "Essentially any kind of investment that can help to either kick-start stalled projects or help bodies such as the South East England Development Agency or KCC bring forward development has to be a really good thing.

"My concern is that when you have a round of bidding there are always winners and losers, and the funding awarded does not always reflect the true level of need."

Cllr Lynes sits on the Thames Gateway ministerial board and said there were still plenty of projects throughout Kent and Essex that were waiting for Government funding, including the Eastern Quarry development in Dartford, which he called "the flagship for regeneration" in north Kent.

He said: "We should be really grateful and pleased that these housing projects have been short-listed, but we also need to keep an eye on where the rest of the funding is coming from to fulfil plans we have been led to believe can go ahead."



Prizewinner Jack enjoys a Fab day out

A YOUNG footballer has jumped at the chance to meet England football manager Fabio Capello.

Jack Revell, who plays for Ashford team Kennington Juniors, had his kit signed by Mr Capello after winning a competition to meet him.

Kennington Juniors have been sponsored by County Square for three years and the Ashford shopping centre recently agreed to more funding to support three new teams, including a girls' squad, who will enter the league in September.

All Kennington Juniors will have the same kit for the coming season.

Police on the hunt for 'French priest' hoaxer

POLICE are appealing for information about a man who has skipped bail and claims to be a French priest.

Harry Contier, 60, was arrested and charged with five counts of fraud after bed-and-breakfast hotels in Broadstairs, Margate, East Sussex and Derbyshire reported a guest leaving without paying and being given money by people he had befriended.

People were touched by his story that he was blind in one eye and suffering from diabetes.

Contier, who has also used the alias Henri de St Aubin, has not answered bail and is now wanted by police.

PC Vanessa Law said: "We are appealing to hotel and guest-house owners, doctors' surgeries and hospitals to stay alert as we believe he is travelling and will need medication."

Phone Margate police on 01843 231055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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‘Serious problems’ predicted for high-speed rail travellers

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

Picture: ADY KERRY



COMMUTERS have raised concerns about longer journey times and overcrowding on mainline services when High Speed 1 is launched.

Southeastern’s flagship high-speed service from Ashford and Ebbsfleet to St Pancras is set to be fully operational from December, but passengers are concerned about the new timetable. It comes amid severe criticism of the railway network in a report by MPs published this week.

Peter Lee, the former vice-chairman of the Rail Users Consultative Committee who lives in Canterbury, said: “I think it is a great shame that what people have not realised is how much of a downside to existing services there will be when the high-speed service comes in.

“I think once the new service comes there are going to be numerous problems with overcrowding and something will need to be done very quickly.

“In Bristol, when they cut some of the trains out of their service at the end of last year, commuters started threatening not to pay until the service was reinstated.

“In north Kent it will make that look like a Sunday school outing. There will be serious problems as it’s planned at the moment.”

He warned there would be overcrowding problems on the Kent coast line to Victoria and also on Cannon Street peak services, which he claimed were facing carriage cuts from 12 to eight. However, Southeastern said that no final decision had been taken on the number of carriages.

“It is dependent on people moving to the high-speed services,” Cllr Lee, a member of Canterbury City Council, said.

“The time-saving is arguable and there is the extra cost of using it. At the moment, out of passengers travelling to Cannon Street, 70 per cent walk to their destination from the station. Therefore, none of them are going to find it attractive.”

Mark Cooper, who lives in Folkestone and commutes to Oxford Circus, said the high-speed service was a welcome prospect for many but the changes to the timetable for people wanting to travel to Waterloo and Charing Cross had not been highlighted.

“If everyone is forced to travel to St Pancras, it means commuters who work in the Charing Cross area and who, like me, walk from the station to work will be forced on to already-overcrowded tubes and buses, adding even more expense to their journey,” he said.

He said with the new timetable direct trains from Folkestone to Charing Cross arrived at 7.36am and 9.25am, which is too late for most people starting work.

But a spokesman for Southeastern said the new timetable would provide a direct service not currently available and would be quicker.

“Many of my fellow commuters catching trains around 6.30am and 7.10am from Folkestone Central and Folkestone West are deeply disappointed about the proposals, which will add hours to their commute,” Mr Cooper said. “I would have thought that a principal aim of a train company would be to provide services that reach their destinations as fast as possible, not the reverse.”

On Monday the Commons Transport Committee published a report that found the rail franchise system was “a muddle” and allowed train companies to “take advantage” of passengers.

The MPs criticised “unacceptable” fare rises. Southeastern passengers face the worst ticket price hikes in the country, which this January rose by up to 13 per cent.

Under its franchise agreement with the Government, Southeastern is allowed to increase regulated fare by the retail price index (RPI) for July plus three per cent. Other operators only add one per cent.

Southeastern argues that it has spent millions of pounds on the railway infrastructure including the High Speed 1 link, but critics respond that only 15 per cent of its passengers will be able to use it.

Cllr Lee said: “I think the major criticism is the franchise is too short. It does not encourage any of the operators to take a long-term view or invest properly.

“It is very interesting that the franchise that has been around the longest, Chiltern, is one of the best-operating lines and best for performance and customer satisfaction.”

In response to the MPs’ report, Transport Minister Lord Adonis has said reforms to improve the rail-franchising system were being considered, including longer franchises.

A Southeastern spokesman said: “We have been undergoing an extensive consultation process with councils, Passenger Focus, London Travel Watch and MPs with regard to the new timetable. We are always concerned about passengers’ needs and will, where possible, make changes.”





Blériots’ flying visit for centenary bash

THE Blériot family, including the aviator’s grandson Bernard Sirot and great-grandson Louis Blériot, were taken on a guided tour of Dover during last weekend’s centenary celebrations of the historic flight.

They were in the town as guests of SeaFrance Dover-Calais Ferries.

On July 25, 1909, Louis Blériot made history as the first man to fly across the English Channel, setting off from what is now known as Blériot-Plage, outside Calais, and touching down in a field next to Dover Castle.

Having made the journey to participate in the celebrations, the Blériot family was accompanied by SeaFrance’s UK managing director Robin Wilkins and senior executives from France on a trip to the Blériot memorial next to Dover Castle, marking the place where he landed.

The celebrations saw a number of historic aircraft flying across the Channel and included a flight on Sunday in the restored original aircraft.

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The family of the Army's first black officer, Walter Tull, says that medal should be

Wartime hero deserved the Military Cross – so it's time it was awarded



TEAM PLAYER: Walter Tull (second right, second row) in the 1909-10 Tottenham line-up

By **NICK AMES**

FAMILY members of footballer and war hero Walter Tull say the man who became the first black outfield player and the first black British Army officer should be honoured with a posthumous Military Cross.

They are calling for the ex-Tottenham Hotspur player, who died in World War One, to be given a medal he was recommended for but never received following his death in action.

An exhibition recounting Mr Tull's remarkable achievements in the fields of football and the military has been touring the country, with his home town of Folkestone its last stop.

And his surviving family members feel it is time his accomplishments were recognised officially by the award of the prestigious medal he was denied by the authorities more than 90 years ago.

Retired Rita Humphrey, from Maidstone, is Mr Tull's great-niece.

She said: "My grandfather William Stephen Palmer Tull was Walter's brother and our family have subsequently brought much of his story to light. We attended the opening of the exhibition of his life and achievements in London and were very proud – as we always have been of him.

"But it struck me as sad that he never received the medal he was recommended for. It is only my opinion, but I think that it was never given because he was a black man. Well, now is the time to put that right – that is how all his surviving family feel."

A keen footballer, Mr Tull joined Tottenham before war broke out. He played just 10 games for the London club but has since become a revered figure – especially in the last few years.

Historians, football supporters, race relations activists and the British Army have all recognised his achievements and he has been the subject of a TV drama-documentary.

But for many years he was forgotten – until researchers who found his name on the Dover town war memorial uncovered his astonishing story.

Mr Tull was born in Folkestone, one of six children, but he also lived in Dover for some time.

His name is inscribed on the town's war memorial, which lists the fallen.

The grandson of Anna and William Tull, born as slaves in Barbados, his father took a sea voyage to England in 1876.

Daniel Tull settled in Folkestone and worked as a carpenter, marrying local woman Alice Palmer.

A talented footballer from a young age, Walter Tull played locally before attracting the attention of talent scouts and signing for Spurs and later Northampton Town.

In 1914, he enlisted with the 17th (Football) Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment as Britain went to war against the Kaiser's Germany.



Two years later, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, but in December, 1916, he returned home to Kent due to trench fever.

Once he had recovered, he was sent to the officer training school at Gailes, Scotland, and became the first black Army officer.

Lieutenant Tull was commissioned and sent to the Italian front in May, 1917. He led his men in the Battle of Piave and was mentioned in dispatches for his "gallantry and coolness under fire".

In 1918, he was transferred to France and was killed in the Battle of the Somme, with his men braving enemy fire in an unsuccessful attempt to recover his body.

When he first walked through the gates of White Hart Lane, the home of Spurs, he signed on for £10 and agreed a wage of £4 a week, playing in the position of inside-forward.

He made his first appearance in a 3-1 defeat at Sunderland on the opening day of the 1909-10 season and a fortnight later made his debut against the then FA Cup holders Manchester United in a 2-2 draw.

In front of 32,000 fans he was brought down for the penalty which ensured a draw.

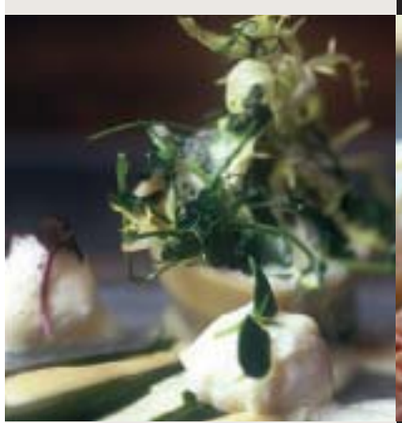
The Daily Chronicle said his performance showed "such perfect coolness… and such accuracy of strength in passing. He defeated [defenders] by side touches and sidesteps worthy of a professional boxer. Tull is very good indeed…"

He scored against Bradford City the following week but then lost his place.

A game against Bristol City saw a crowd turn on him with language that the newspapers of the day slammed for its abusiveness. This may have contributed to his decision to leave for Northampton Town, where he played until the war broke out.

Lt Tull achieved officer rank in spite of an

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given posthumously



ROLE MODEL: Lt Tull, whose name can be found on the war memorial in Dover, was recommended for the Military Cross (left)



edict in the Manual of Military Law stating that black people could not exercise "actual command" of British troops.

He was leading his men into no-man's-land when his life ended at the age of 29; he was reported to have died instantly as a shot hit him in the head on March 25, 1918.

The unit's commanding officer broke the news of his death in a letter to Tull's brother Edward. He said how "popular he was throughout the battalion. He was brave and conscientious… the battalion and company have lost a faithful officer and personally I have lost a friend".

MRS Humphrey said: "Walter died when my mother was young, so I have no direct knowledge of him. But my grandfather and his wife Gertrude Tull, who lived in Greenfields Road, Folkestone, certainly did. They didn't talk much about him to us younger family members, so we had to find out for ourselves.

"I'm pleased he has become such a role model. It makes me very proud he broke through and became a success in two areas where his colour would have certainly been a stigma.

"Thankfully, things have moved on now and it would be appropriate if he was given the medal he deserved – and didn't get at the time purely because he was black, in my opinion."

The Military Cross – known as the MC – is the third-highest-level military decoration awarded to officers and, since 1993, other ranks of the British Armed Forces.

It is granted in recognition of "an act or acts of exemplary gallantry during active operations against the enemy on land to all members, of any rank in our Armed Forces…".

In 1979, the Queen approved a proposal that it could be awarded posthumously.

Calls for urgent review of road safety after mother and daughter are killed

A MOTHER and daughter have died after being hit by a car in Strood.

The women – Elsie Blades, 80, and Marilyn Herlihy, 60 – were both struck by a Seat Ibiza believed to have been driven by an 18-year-old man from Chatham as they crossed Station Road at midday on Sunday.

Police confirmed that the older woman died at the scene. The second woman was airlifted to the Royal London Hospital, where she died from her injuries. No arrests have been made.

Floral tributes have been left on a traffic island in Station Road.

Strood North councillor Stephen Hubbard called for an urgent road safety review to be carried out.

He said: "Over the years there have been a fair number of accidents at the bend on Station Road, Strood, by the junction of Evelyn Close.

"When Evelyn Close was built in the mid-1990s, a pedestrian refuge was installed in Station Road – this did allow for a greater level of safety when crossing the road.

"However, we should remind ourselves that until Evelyn Close was built there was no pedestrian demand to cross Station Road at this point. The council, as the highways authority, needs to urgently review road safety in Station Road.

"In my view, traffic migration measures need to be considered – speed bumps, chicanes, road markings, a 20mph speed limit or flashing speed signs."

A police spokesman said: "Officers from the serious collision investigation unit are appealing for any witnesses to the collision itself, or anyone who may have seen the Seat in the area prior to the collision, to contact them on 01622 798535 with any information."

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Trees still stand despite march of development

DESPITE the seemingly endless onslaught of development in and around Ashford, the borough still has the largest area of ancient woodland in the county.

A survey of trees in the district has shown it has more valuable ancient woodlands than thought. The study was designed to identify woods larger than two hectares in size.

It was decided to carry out a revision because the last survey conducted by the Nature Conservancy Council in the 1990s used technology that was not sufficiently accurate.

The project was carried out by Ashford council, Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty unit.

Ashford's woodland is under huge pressure as a result of housing and development targets set for the borough.

To qualify as 'ancient woodland', an area has to have been continually wooded for more than 400 years.

Woods continuously coppiced over that time still qualify as ancient woodland because of the number of native trees and variety of plant and animal species found there.

About 10 per cent of the borough is covered by what is defined as ancient woodland.

The more accurate analysis, carried out between 2006-09, has produced an increase of 354 hectares on the previous figure.

In addition to development, some of the biggest threats to woodland are rubbish-dumping and overgrazing by farm animals.

Many of the smaller woods are neglected, although it is hoped that a renewed interest in using wood for fuel will mean better management in future.

Chef's dish of the day has got real bite to it

Restaurant puts exotic animals on menu

By **TOM BETTS**

PYTHON, zebra, ostrich, wild boar and crocodile meat… all have been added to the menu of one of the county's most popular restaurants.

The Indian Princess in Margate is developing a growing reputation as a venue offering more than the 'standard' Indian restaurant – and it is clearly spreading its net far and wide.

Executive chef Dev Biswal and his team have just hosted the Wild and Exotic Food Festival… and the event has been such a success that fare from far-flung climes is likely to feature more and more at The Indian Princess.

"It has gone brilliantly well – we almost got sold out every day," said Mr Biswal. "We do it once every year and will be doing the same next year. I might put some of the dishes on the regular menu soon as they are proving to be extremely popular.

"The festival is about giving people something different to try, a new taste experience."

"We offer the dishes themselves or as part of a special tasting menu in which all the meats will be served.

"I have a great passion for ingredients – and food in general. The rarer an ingredient, the more it fires me up. It's therefore naturally exciting when there is an opportunity to cook exotic meats such as python and fillets of crocodile tail."



MASTERCHEF: Dev working on his dishes

All the meats Mr Biswal and his team cook are from sustainable sources and meet regulations on welfare set out by CITES – the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Mr Biswal, 32, said: "We've researched our sources to make sure each meat is part of a production system which is in keeping with the welfare and conservation policies of the EU. All the meats featured come through meat plants certified by the EU Food Standard Agency. It's something that is very important to us."

The ostrich comes from South Africa and was smoked with cloves before being chargrilled, while the crocodile fillets were slow-cooked in tamarind, coconut and spices to make them tender.

The rich, gamey zebra steaks and the sweet, nutty wild boar fillets were both pan-grilled, while the python, which has a texture akin to eel, was slow-cooked in a tomato-and-onion sauce for five hours.

The dishes were all dreamt up by Mr Biswal, who takes a scientific approach to his cooking to find the best combinations.

And it is not just the exciting flavours that should appeal to diners.

Mr Biswal said: "In general, game meat is leaner than meat from domesticated animals.

"Game meat usually contains fewer calories and less saturated fat, making it a good choice for a healthy heart."

• ***To see Tom Betts's take on the Wild and Exotic Food Festival menu, visit www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'Indian Princess'.***

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My silly crack rabbit needs no explanation, says artist



ART ATTACK: Images of the rabbit are all over county town

PICTURES of a drugged-up cartoon rabbit that have been popping up around Maidstone have been defended as a "social experiment" by their creator.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

Stickers and posters bearing the bizarre image have been posted on walls and street furniture throughout the county town, much to the dislike of many residents, who view them as an eyesore.

Borough councillor Stephen Paine contacted KOS Media to help promote his campaign to kill the crack rabbit after being unconvinced by its creator's argument that it was not a form of graffiti.

In a message sent to Mr Paine on Facebook, Team Crack member Jonny Darko wrote: "It is a social experiment.

"Every day the public is subliminally bombarded with vulgar, brash advertising. Product placement is everywhere you look. But because that advertising is paid for by big companies with money to throw at your council it's considered acceptable.

"The objective of the rabbit head is just to see if a silly yet sinister image can break through that wall of routine in everyone's daily lives, and if they will start to notice their surroundings more and question everything.

"Many people who are familiar with the sticker find the image itself amusing, recognising it as nonsensical, and are able to derive straightforward visual pleasure without burdening themselves with an explanation."

The name Jonny Darko is a play on the 2001 cult classic film Donnie Darko – starring Jake Gyllenhaal – in which a paranoid schizophrenic receives dark premonitions from a man dressed in a menacing bunny costume.

Cllr Paine said, while he found the project interesting, he was not convinced with the argument that it was not causing visual harm to the environment.

He said: "If the guys behind these posters were carrying out legitimate social research, then they would have been ethically obliged to talk to the council or community leaders about what it is they planned to do.

"I actually think their posters are an appalling act of vandalism and I consider them graffiti. I am particularly disturbed by the way they are sticking these posters outside primary schools.

"I try to rip down the posters when I see them and would encourage others to do the same."

Graffiti and fly-posting – the act of placing stickers or posters in public without permission – are both criminal offences carrying large fines.

Local councils, whose responsibility it is to remove them, can also issue fixed-penalty notices to offenders of up to £80.





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ON HIS WAY: Stoate

Tory cites expenses row as the real reason behind MP's decision to quit seat



CLAIMS: Johnson

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

THE latest Labour casualty to announce his resignation has been accused of "jumping ship before being pushed" by his Conservative rival, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Dartford MP Dr Howard Stoate said he decided to call it a day because his position had been made "untenable".

The backbencher and serving GP, who was elected to the constituency in 1997, said it was clear his Labour masters did not want MPs with a second job – meaning he had to resign his position.

However, the Tories' parliamentary candidate Gareth Johnson told Kent on Sunday he did not believe that was the real reason for Dr Stoate's resignation.

He said: "Dr Stoate should be thanked for the 12 years of service that he has given, but this is a change of heart from him which has come about from the expenses scandal that broke some time ago.

"Inevitably people are going to link this decision to the information that was leaked about his claims. As for his excuse about second jobs, no decision has been made about what jobs will or will not be permitted, so it's somewhat premature."

Dr Stoate was caught up in the expenses scandal in June when The Daily Telegraph revealed he had claimed thousands of pounds in DIY materials while doing up his second home in London.

When asked whether he thought Dr Stoate had done a good job since being elected, Mr Johnson replied: "That's for the residents of Dartford to judge, but to a certain extent he does leave office under a cloud.

"It's a classic case of him jumping before being pushed. He lost a lot of credibility over his expense claims and he knew he wasn't likely to win at the next elections anyway."

Dr Stoate was unavailable to comment on the accusations, but a worker at his constituency office told KoS he had nothing to add to the statement he had released on his website earlier in the week.

It read: "When I stood for Parliament in Dartford in 1997, I decided that I wanted to continue to do some work as a medical GP each week if I was elected.

"I did so because I thought the House of Commons would benefit from the presence of someone who was still active in medicine and was able to speak with authority about the impact of Government health policy on front-line NHS professionals and patients.

"I feel my experience as a GP has helped me enormously in my work on the House of Commons Health Select Committee in scrutinising Government policy and as chairman of a number of health-related all-party parliamentary groups.

"I have never allowed my medical responsibilities to interfere with my parliamentary duties and I have always been open and upfront with my constituents about my ongoing work as a GP.

"The fact that Dartford voters have re-elected me twice as their MP since 1997, knowing that I have continued to practise as a GP, suggests that they too see this as a boon."

However, in a clear shot across the bows of his party chiefs, Dr Stoate said he felt he could no longer continue in his role because of his second job.

The 55-year-old married father-of-two said: "It is clear from the tenor of recent debates in the Commons and from the position taken by senior figures within the Parliamentary Labour Party with regard to the outside work of MPs that this position is no longer tenable.

"It is apparent that Labour candidates standing for Parliament at the next election will be expected to give up their outside jobs if they are elected.

"I respect this view, but I think my own contribution to the work of Parliament would be diminished if I was to give up general practice, which is why I have decided not to stand as a candidate at the next general election.

"It is a decision I take with some sadness, but I feel that I have made a significant contribution to Westminster and to life in Dartford and I look back on my record with a sense of pride and satisfaction."

Dr Stoate is the fifth Kent MP to announce he will not contest his seat at the polls.

Fellow Labour members Derek Wyatt (Sittingbourne and Sheppey) and Bob Marshall-Andrews (Medway) are also stepping down at the next election, as are Tories Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone and The Weald) and Michael Howard (Folkestone and Hythe).

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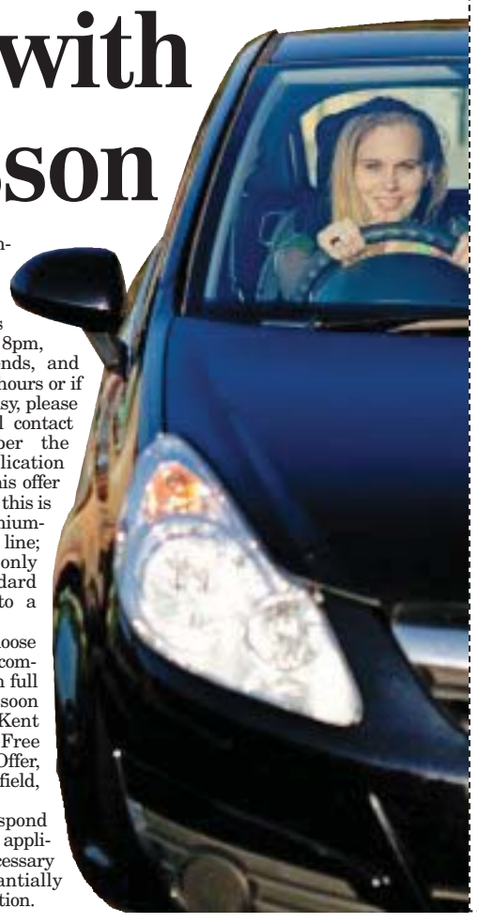
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If you instead choose to apply by post, complete the coupon in full and send it as soon as possible to: Kent on Sunday Free Driving Lesson Offer, PO Box 122, Uckfield, TN22 5UU.

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Course aims to give older women the right attitude

A WOMAN who says life does not stop at 40 is holding a series of sessions to prove it.

Businesswoman and author Lindsay Agness, 50, changed her life at 40 when she launched The Change Corporation from her home in Sandwich, and in September she is holding an intensive 10-day programme called Age With Attitude.

She said it would focus on bringing about long-term, sustainable change and help empower other mid-life women to take control of their lives and become happier, more fulfilled individuals.

She said: "Mid-life doesn't have to mean it's time to hang up your dancing shoes and put on your slippers, unless you want it to, but by your 40s, life tends to become more about routine and comfort rather than about following your dreams.

"I developed this course to show other women that life isn't over once you leave your 20s and 30s, and for many like me, reaching your 40s is just the beginning of the next chapter of a very exciting life."

She added: "The Age With Attitude course provides a unique opportunity for women to give themselves some attention time, aside from their busy lives of balancing everything that goes with being a woman, partner and mother."

For more information about the course or to book your place, visit the website www.agewithattitude.co.uk or call Lindsay on 01304 621735.



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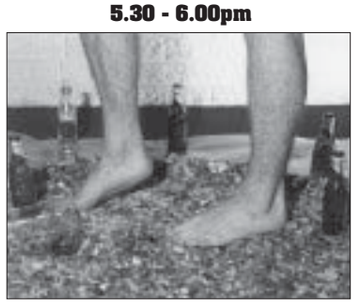
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Cine film captures return to the good old days

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A FILM showcasing life in 1930s suburbia has been re-released by a county production company.

Beckenham Remembered captures the optimism of the inter-war years and provides an insight into what made the area unique.

The re-edit of the 16mm silent film Greater Beckenham, which was made in 1935 by the Beckenham Cine Society, has been released by West Wickham amateur film-maker Footprint Productions.

Richard Troughton, one of the three-member Footprint team, said: "Everything looks clean and tidy, with uncrowded streets and people looking smartly dressed.

"There is a real sense of optimism expressed in the narrative that things could only get better, with the dark days of World War One and the poverty of the 20s, the memories of which were finally fading, and with no thought about the next world conflict just around the corner.

Dominates

"This contrasts with Beckenham today, which, although still providing a pleasant environment in which to live, has lost much of its individual identity as it has grown and been absorbed into Bromley.

"And like every other suburb, it is the traffic that now dominates daily life to an extent that could not have been imagined in the 30s."

The group was launched two-and-a-half-years ago when Mr Troughton discovered old cine film in the local studies archive in Bromley and was awarded a grant to have it digitally transferred so it could be enjoyed by contemporary audiences.

The latest DVD features digitally-remastered film, which was made to celebrate the year Beckenham became a borough in is own right. It now contains music and new footage as well as a narrative based on the 1935 script, which was read aloud when the original film was shown.

"The underlying message running through the film is one of civic pride which catalogues Beckenham's achievements in health, education and welfare, in transport and public amenities and its modernisation programme for electrical supply, drainage and refuge collection," Mr Troughton said.

"Entertainment and retail is also included to provide a rounded picture of what it was like to live in Beckenham at the time."

His wife Brenda does the research for the Footprint projects, which include their first work, Orpington Remembered – a digitally-remastered 35mm film from the 1930s and 50s.

"In the early 30s it was deemed too many children were under-weight, so children were given a third of a pint of milk every day," she said.

Unmarried

"Beckenham was the first local council to provide a swimming pool and make swimming lessons a compulsory subject in elementary schools. In the winter the swimming pool was floored over and used as a dance hall."

Parades and fairs were also a popular part of life in 30s Beckenham, she said. "In the annual Flitch fair, a married couple had to satisfy the judge and jury of six maidens and six bachelors that for one year and one day they had 'not wished themselves unmarried again'," she said.

"This was very great fun and lasted for a weekend. On the second day a flitch [side] of bacon stood hanging from a gibbet [gallows-type structure]. I do wonder what we would all think of this today."

Mrs Troughton revealed that Beckenham used to have an annual flower show which in Edwardian times rivalled the Chelsea show.

The other member of Footprints is Mike Shaw, who founded the company and edits the films.

Both films were shown as part of the Mayor of London's Story of London, an event which ran throughout June at Bromley Central Library and Beckenham Library.

For more information and to buy a copy of the film, you can email footprintproduction@googlemail.com or phone 020 8462 8335.







SIMPLE LIFE: Scenes taken from the re-edited Greater Beckenham

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'Margay' proving big hit on website

IT has a burgeoning image as a gay-friendly resort, but juvenile internet scamps have taken Margate's reputation as a haven for alternative breaks a step further.

The town has been renamed 'Margay' by a cheeky user of the online encyclopedia Wikipedia. Names of the town's wards have also been changed on the site.

Garlinge has become 'Gaylinge' and Palm Bay has been changed to 'Palm Gay'.

Thanet Pride, which was held two weekends ago, is now in its third year and has pulled crowds in to the town each year.

The liberal image was further embellished when candidates on the hit BBC TV show The Apprentice came up with the idea of chasing the pink pound to boost the town's reputation for holidaymakers.

Candidate Howard Ebison, who visited the town during Thanet Pride, pushed the idea to his team.

The moniker 'Marhomosexual' also appears on Wikipedia, which is one of the world's most popular websites and a source of reference for millions of web-users.

Visitors to the site can edit the pages themselves, making tampering with the facts possible.

CHEESE and pickle is the sandwich filling of choice for people in Kent, according to research by Warburtons bakers.

The study also shows more than half the people questioned make their own lunch as opposed to buying it at work. The findings were part of a survey that suggests British people spend £33.6 million per day buying lunch.

KoS article used in campaign to safeguard Eliot's seafront shelter

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

A KENT on Sunday feature on the battle to turn TS Eliot's seafront shelter into a listed building has gone to the Government.

Campaigners say the story will help in their fight to convince ministers at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to make the Nayland Rock shelter in Margate a Grade II-listed building.

The move would help preserve it for future generations.

The KoS feature told the story of the shelter giving the famous poet inspiration to complete his greatest work, The Waste Land.

Eliot had suffered a nervous breakdown and arrived for a six-week break in the resort, paid for by his employer at the time, Lloyds Bank.

He visited Margate in 1921 and spent hours in the shelter, which was built in 1911. The poet died in 1965.

Now several leading lights from the world of literature have joined the battle, including playwright Alan Bennett, former poet laureate Sir Andrew Motion and the late poet's wife, Valerie Eliot. They have each written to support an application to English Heritage.

Mandy Wilkins is a researcher who has been helping to lead the fight for recognition.

She said: "Thanks for the excellent article in Kent on Sunday. We've now sent all the information and articles to DMCS and hope to hear soon if the shelter will be listed."

Nick Dermott, heritage adviser to Thanet council, said: "Eliot came to Margate a depressed and angry man, and he went away happy with a completed poem. It just shows what Margate does for people.

"The more people who back this campaign, hopefully the quicker they will consider it and look upon the application more favourably.

"Eliot had writer's block for months and Margate freed it. Margate is pretty invigorating, with breezy weather and great skies, as Turner said."



RESTING PLACE: TS Eliot gained inspiration from sitting in the shelter on Margate seafront

Sir Andrew Motion described the shelter as "a shrine to modern poetry" and Mr Bennett said: "I'm happy to support the listing of the Rock shelter simply on the grounds that it's a delightful building of the sort one often used to find at the seaside but seldom now as so many have gone. If it has connections with TS Eliot, so much the better. I wouldn't know, but it should be kept just on its own terms."

English Heritage could advise to refuse listed building status as well as granting it.



PRAISING: Chief Constable Michael Fuller

Power cuts spark 'spirit of the Blitz'

CHIEF Constable Michael Fuller has spoken of the war-like spirit created by last week's north Kent power cuts.

Almost 100,000 homes across parts of Dartford, Crayford, Bexleyheath, Erith and Orpington were hit by the blackout for up to four days following a fire that damaged four major electricity circuits.

Mr Fuller told members of the Kent Police Authority on Monday that he was pleased with the manner in which the public had responded to the power cuts.

He said: "We had no looting and traffic actually ran better because the lights weren't working.

"We had extra police officers working in the affected areas and people described it as being like the war with the Blitz spirit where people rose to the occasion and helped each other out, which was encouraging.

"It was a good test of resilience and required us to work with a number of agencies, particularly EDF Energy.

"We're not sure at the moment whether we are looking at criminal damage that caused the fire or a clumsy attempt to steal copper."

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DEADLY: Heroin and cocaine in suitcase

Drugs smuggler is jailed for 20 years

A MAN has been jailed for 20 years after fingerprints on packages of heroin and cocaine led to his arrest.

Customs found 90 kilos of heroin and almost 11 kilos of cocaine together valued at £4.5 million at Dover docks.

Following the discovery of the drugs in a car at the ferry port on September 1, 2008, a forensic examination of the inner packaging in which the drugs were wrapped gave a positive match to marks recorded on the national fingerprint identification system.

They belonged to Simon Madu, 33, from Liverpool. In January, customs searched a vehicle he was in and found 6,000 euros and £600 in Scottish notes. He told police it was to pay for his emigration, but he was charged with smuggling instead.

He was convicted at Canterbury Crown Court on Thursday, July 16, and sentenced on Wednesday.

The investigation which led to his arrest started when a French-registered car arrived at Dover on a ferry from Dunkirk.

Driver Stephen Macnamee, 30, from Wales, was arrested when the drugs were found in three suitcases.

He was jailed in December after admitting smuggling, but the fingerprints found on the drug packaging led to Madu.

Pubs urged to increase use of plastic cups

Police crackdown on glassings after spate of assaults

A CRACKDOWN on glass and bottle attacks could lead to more pubs serving drinks in plastic cups.

Between May 1 and July 9 there were 50 such attacks in Kent, accounting for 41 per cent of offences that fall under the 'violent knife crime' category, compared with 44 per cent for knives and other sharp objects.

Kent Police are now in talks with breweries and pub operators including Shepherd Neame and Thorley Taverns to see how the number of incidents can be reduced, with plastic cups and bottles an obvious solution.

Chief Inspector Lee Russell told Kent on Sunday that while knife crime was not a serious problem in the county, it was important to keep the figures as low as possible.

He said: "We would encourage the use of plastic cups within pubs, even though we accept the vast majority of people go out to enjoy themselves and not to smash a glass or bottle over someone's head.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"There have been conversations about this for a long time and it usually falls down to the cost of replacing glasses.

"But we already have a good relationship with the breweries and will be looking to take the discussion further."

Chief Insp Russell said that while plastic cups may prove unpopular with drinkers at first, he was confident people would soon get used to them.

He said: "I think it's a cultural issue that many people prefer holding their drinks in glasses. But younger members of the community will already be familiar with plastic containers that are given out at music events, for example."

The issue of glass and bottle attacks was brought up during a presentation by Chief Insp Russell at a Kent Police Authority meeting on Wednesday.

He was telling members about Kent Police's involvement in the Home Office's tackling-knives programme, which will see the force receive a share of £2 million to fund preventative gun and knife projects.

Ann Oakes-Odger, founder of the national charity KnifeCrimes.org, said she thought the extended use of plastic containers in pubs and clubs was an excellent idea.

She said: "Where I live in Essex, there have been a number of incidents recently where someone in the heat of the moment and fuelled by alcohol has smashed a glass or bottle and used it against somebody.

"The facial injuries inflicted on the victim can be horrific and the psychological effects caused by scarring and the attack itself can take years to overcome.

"Plastic can also cause injury, but nowhere near as badly as glass, so I would certainly support the use of them in pubs and clubs."

Phil Thorley, operations director of the Broadstairs-based Thorley Taverns chain, said that while plastic containers were suitable on some occasions such as during outdoor events, they were not necessary inside the majority of licensed premises.

He said: "Pubs are generally very safe places to enjoy alcohol and if they are well managed and well run there is little need to replace glasses with plastic containers.

"We used plastic cups during the Ramsgate Rocks festival because it was a very busy weekend and we agreed it would be safer because there were so many people around, but I wouldn't concur that we need them every day.

"I think there's far more danger of a bottle attack taking place when the alcohol has been bought from a shop and is being drunk in the street, as there is nobody there to supervise them."

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Night at the museum with Vic Reeves

COMEDIAN Vic Reeves is to provide an insight into his unusual exhibition in a west Kent gallery. An open evening will offer the opportunity to find out how he put together the Tunbridge Wells museum show.

Fans of the Shooting Stars presenter, who lives near Ashford, will get the chance to question him on Thursday, August 27, from 6.30pm to 8pm. To book, call the museum on 01892 554171.

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DUST TO BUST: Cremation urns in the shape of a loved one's head are now available

Immortality or bust, if you can't face parting

IF you're attracted to the idea of having a bust of your recently-deceased loved one containing their ashes, then look no further.

For everyone else, however, it could fill them with horror and look just a little creepy.

It's an idea sweeping the United States after being dreamt up by a company called Cremation Solutions based at Arlington, in the New England state of Vermont.

The company said of the scary-looking containers: "Personal urns are a new and exciting way to memorialise your loved one.

"Now we can create a custom urn in the image of your loved one or favourite celebrity.

"New advances in facial reconstruction and 3D printing have made it possible to have an urn made in the image of anyone from just a photograph. Never forget a face. Personal urns combine art and technology to create a family heirloom that will be cherished for generations."

And they are available in two sizes – lifesize and keepsake.

John Weir is a funeral director based in Medway and spokesman for the National Association of Funeral Directors.

He said: "This is just too unusual to be accepted in this country. It looks like a death mask from a past century.

"I think many people will be creeped out at the thought of having this in their homes.

"The British will be too discerning to go for something like this. As they say, this is something only America will go for.

"It's a little macabre for most tastes."

Crowds hail actress Joanna and campaigners in Nepal

Gurkhas welcome 'thrilled' Lumley

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

HUNDREDS of grateful Nepali citizens mobbed actress Joanna Lumley to say thank you for her leading role in winning the battle for Gurkhas' rights.

The former model was accompanied on her trip to Nepal by Kent politician Peter Carroll, who launched the Gurkha Justice Campaign to allow the soldiers to live in the UK back in 2004.

Their arrival in the South Asian nation's capital Kathmandu on Monday had been intended as a low-key affair but turned into a major event after the campaign's successful lobbying of the British Government.

Mr Carroll, who is the Liberal Democrats' parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and the Weald, paid tribute to the legendary fighters and said he had received thousands of letters detailing their bravery over the years.

Delighted

He also told the assembled crowd how one elderly woman in Britain had written to tell him that her father's life had been saved by a Gurkha who carried him on his back for three days to reach safety.

Mr Carroll said: "I started the campaign in 2004 when I for the first time realised the terrible wrongs that had been done to you – that you could not live in the country you were prepared to fight and die for."

More than 40 Gurkha wives, all wearing traditional green saris bearing the Gurkha emblem of two crossed kukri knives, were at Kathmandu airport when Ms Lumley and Mr Carroll's plane touched down.

As the Absolutely Fabulous sitcom star emerged from the terminal building she looked delighted to see the crowds waiting to meet her.

Leaders of Gurkha ex-servicemen's organisations draped orange garlands and traditional white khata scarves – usually given as a token of love – around her shoulders. She told the crowd: "I'm absolutely thrilled – it's extremely sweet and warm.

"I want to say thank you so much for your warm welcome. I want to say the time-honoured cry – Ayo Gorkhali! [the Gurkhas are coming]."



AYO GORKHALI! Joanna Lumley played a key role in the Gurkha Justice Campaign

During their tour of Nepal the travelling party, which also included Mr Carroll's fellow Shepway councillor Lynne Beaumont and Folkestone town councillor Dhan Gurung, met Nepalese leaders including president Ram Baran Yadav, prime minister Madhav Kumar Nepal and foreign minister Sujata Koirala.

Mr Carroll told KOS Media last week that the tour had started out as a private visit arranged during the campaign to win rights for all Gurkha British Army veterans to live in the UK, before the Government finally changed its rules in May.

Kent has a long association with the Gurkhas.

Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone is home to the 2nd Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles, while almost half the soldiers from the Maidstone-based 36 Engineers Regiment are Queen's Gurkha Engineers.

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For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to pages **48-49**

Prints dropped in to help fund village centre



By **NICK AMES**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A PAIR of historic prints – one showing the sole survivor of a British retreat in Afghanistan and the other depicting a cavalry charge in the Napoleonic Wars – are being sold to raise funds for a community centre.

The military scenes, both autographed, are being auctioned to raise money for a drop-in facility held at Sellindge Village Hall.

They were valued at about £5,000 when bought a number of years ago. But collector Mervyn Doel has donated them to raise funds for the centre, which helps vulnerable members of the community in the villages along the A20 outside Folkestone

The prints on offer show the last survivor of a British Army force which retreated from Kabul in 1842, while the other is of a more glorious episode, the charge of the Scots Greys at Waterloo in 1815.

Remnants Of An Army and Scotland Forever are both the work of one artist, Lady Elizabeth Butler.

However, an expert would need to be found to decipher the signature on the prints to ascertain whether they are hers.

The prints were available for viewing at the centre during the week.

The first shows the only survivor to make it out of the wilds of Afghanistan after a dismal conflict with tribesmen which resulted in the massacre of a British Army force.

An account at the time read: "Cut to pieces in the snowy mountain passes just seven days after the retreat commenced, one man, bloody and torn, mounted on a miserable pony, and pursued by horsemen, was seen riding furiously across the plains to the British base at Jalalabad."

That man was Dr William Brydon, the sole person to tell the tale of the disaster – and the print roused patriotic anger leading to a second and more successful invasion.

More than 16,000 people had set out on the retreat from Kabul, and the garrison at Jalalabad lit signal fires and sounded bugles to guide other British survivors to safety, but after several days it was realised that Dr Brydon would be the only one. It was believed that the Afghans let him live so he could tell the grisly story.



FUND-RAISIERS: Remnants Of An Army, left, and Scotland Forever are up for sale

The second print shows the Scots Greys, commanded by Colonel Inglis Hamilton, who were said by one eyewitness to have "walked over" a whole French infantry column which resulted in the taking of 3,000 prisoners.

During the charge, Sergeant Charles Ewart, of the Greys, captured the eagle emblem of the French 45th Ligne – the most treasured possession of a French regiment serving under Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte.

The Scots Greys' casualties for the whole battle included 122 killed, 93 wounded and the loss of 228 of the 416 horses that started the day.

Drop-in centre organiser Michael Garrod is helping to sell the prints.

He said: "Mr Doel bought them for his retirement as he is very interested in history.

"But he has become so impressed with the work we are doing he donated them to us to sell to raise funds for our activities.

"The Afghanistan one is especially interesting because of the current conflict there.

"We are always being told the conflict will soon be over, but this shows we have been there before – history has a habit of repeating itself."

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk

Showing us a reminder of our county's best food

Celebrity chef Richard Phillips takes a break from the kitchen to find out what's new in food and drink at the County Show

LAST month the Kent County Show provided the perfect showcase for many of our home grown suppliers of produce and livestock to display just how good they are.

For me it was a chance to take a wander round the various stalls and enclosures and see what's new and what might be appearing over the coming months.

The show is always busy and its popularity has increased over the years, proving there is still a high demand for natural product and innovation; two areas we excel at in Kent.

I visited the county show this year as a guest of Produced in Kent, an organisation which promotes excellence in food and drink products and services in Kent.

You may have seen their logo associated with the Foodforkent.co.uk programme run by the good people here at KOS Media – publishers of this newspaper.

I am working with Produced in Kent on a couple of exciting projects which I will tell you more about over the next couple of weeks but needless to say we will be having a lot of fun promoting excellence in food for people of all ages.

The last few weeks have been hectic with completion of filming on a new series on BBC2 which has just aired called Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is and another episode of Made in Great Britain, our internet TV programme.



In-between all of this I somehow managed to sneak away on holiday for a couple of weeks rest and relaxation with my wife Claire and our beautiful twin babies.

While I was away it enabled me to catch up on my postbag and I was pleased to see some feedback and requests from you.

It's always good to hear from you, so if you have any cooking related questions or hints and tips please email me: richard.phillips@kosmedia.co.uk and I will get back to you.

Our recipe today celebrates some of the best local products available in Kent and as usual you will find most ingredients including a fantastic range of wonderful home reared meats available from the website Foodforkent.co.uk.

Slow cooked pork belly with Kentish Cider and grain mustard sauce is a dish which is relatively easy to prepare but filled with complementary flavoursome taste and makes a perfect Sunday or evening meal.

Richard Phillips

Your questions answered

Q How can I ensure that I make the perfect roasted potato every time?

I've been to restaurants where they are golden and crisp yet really fluffy inside. I never seem to be able to achieve this no matter how hard I try.

Gail Linden, Staplehurst

A Once peeled, cut them all the same size and trim up the edges so they are all of a roundish shape. Place into water with a pinch of salt and bring to the boil.

Meanwhile, place 4-6 table spoons of goose or duck fat in to shallow roasting tray (the fat can be purchased from and good deli) and place into a pre-heated oven (200c).

Whilst the potatoes are coming to the boil, ensure you skim away the excess starch; this is the white foam that comes to the surface.

Once boiled, drain, dry the potatoes by placing back onto the heat and shake slightly. Then put into the pre heated fat, cook until golden brown on all sides and soft in the centre approx 20-25min, turning 2-3 times whilst cooking, serve immediately. I like to add 3-4 garlic cloves and a sprig of thyme and rosemary half way through cooking.

Q Is it true that if you add a pinch of salt to eggs when you whisk them it makes scrambled eggs lighter and fluffier or is it an old wives tale?

I have tried but can't notice the difference. Maybe I am doing something wrong?

Tamsin Reynolds, Tunbridge Wells

Q I have never found that this makes the scrambled eggs lighter and fluffier, maybe where you are getting confused is when you are whisking egg whites, eg; for a savoury soufflé you have to add table salt, a small amount at the beginning and then a small amount at the end, this helps hold the peaks and makes them lighter.

Slow cooked pork with Kentish cider and grain mustard sauce

For the pork

A side of lean pork belly, bones and excess sinew removed (keep the trimmings for the sauce); A bottle of Chapel Down Bacchus wine; 1 x carrot, 1 x onion, 1 x head of garlic, 3 sticks of celery (all peeled and roughly chopped); 1 litre of chicken or pork stock; Sprig of thyme, rosemary and three bay leaves

Pre-heat a heavy bottomed roasting tray, add a drizzle of olive oil, once hot, place the seasoned pork belly fat side down and cook until a golden brown colour is achieved, turn over and repeat the process.

Remove the pork from the pan, add the vegetables and colour, then add the herbs cook for a further minute, add the wine and reduce by half.

Place the pork belly back into the pan skin side up, add the stock two thirds of the way up the pork (this allows the skin to go crisp whilst the meat is juicy and tender), bring to the boil then place into a pre heated oven (160c) for approximately two hours. To test the pork use a skewer and insert into the pork – if there is no resistance it is cooked.

Allow to cool in the cooking liquor, and then cut into the desired size pieces.

For the sauce

1 x banana shallot; 2 x cloves garlic; 1 x tbsp grain mustard; 125ml double cream; 100ml chicken or pork stock; 175ml Kentish Cider; 75g pork trimmings (not too fatty)

In a pre heated pan, add the pork trimmings and cook until golden brown in colour, add the shallots and garlic and cook for two minutes. Add the cider, and reduce by two thirds, add a sprig of thyme and a bay leaf (split the herbs to release the flavour) add the stock and reduce by half, then add the cream and reduce until a sauce consistency is achieved.

Pass the mixture through a fine sieve, then add the grain mustard and serve.

For the apple

1 x apple; Knob of unsalted butter; 50ml Calvados

Cut the apple in half and remove the stalk. Place in a pre-heated pan with a few drops of olive oil, cook for a minute then add the butter, once golden in colour, add the calvados, bring to the boil and place into a pre heated oven (180c) until the apple is tender but still holding its shape (approximately six minutes).

To Serve

Re-heat the pork in the oven until it is crisp (crackling is achieved). Place the apple at the top of the plate, the pork belly in the centre (I like to serve it on braised creamed cabbage and pan fried black pudding) then drizzle the sauce around.

Tune in to Kent's best produce

COME and meet the Food For Kent team at the Best of Kent event next week.

Set in the grounds of Goodnestone Park Gardens, experts will be on hand to answer questions about local produce, where your food is from and what is in season. There will also be an array of Kentish produce on sale.

The weekend's events kick off on Friday with a night of music featuring Hullabaloo and Richard J Lewis from 6.30pm. Saturday continues the musical theme with a Garden Prom by the Kent Concert Orchestra. The activities will be rounded off with a produce and craft fair on Sunday at noon.

For more information visit www.goodnestone.com.

KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Fools' gold from a new El Dorado

IF ever a well-meaning proposal had the potential for mass exploitation, the Global Calais Scheme is it.

It seems obvious that the offer of free flights and money will serve only to attract more refugees to the French port, regardless of whether they really want to enter the UK.

According to Calais politician Pierre de Bousquet, the scheme will help show Britain is "not the El Dorado refugees believe it to be".

He's right, because if this scheme gets the go-ahead, Calais will quickly take its place with all that free cash flying around.

There is also the problem of how to deal with people who have travelled from such places as Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia – not exactly on easyJet's top 10 destinations.

While it is commendable that the French and British governments are committed to helping those who are exploited by smugglers, there must be better ways of doing so.

Taxpayers are right to be concerned about the money that could be spent on this project, which needs to be looked at again.

A hero's welcome

WHEN Peter Carroll laid the foundations for the Gurkha Justice Campaign in 2004, he could not have imagined the heroic status he would later be afforded.

The Kent politician stood side-by-side with actress Joanna Lumley as the pair were mobbed by grateful Nepalese citizens during their visit to the country this week.

Evidence of a job extremely well done.

OPINION:

The road to nowhere

Motorway speed cameras are coming to Kent, warns motorist Brian MacDowall



WITHIN months, speed cameras will appear on Kent's motorways for the first time. Although they will be introduced as an "experiment", you can guarantee the cameras will be declared a success and become permanent.

If you are part of the daily congestion on the M20 and at the Dartford Crossing, expect variable limits – enforcing 50mph or lower speeds – to be used regularly. Road markings (enabling prosecutions) and, in the case of Dartford, cameras have been installed on the bridge and approach road but are not yet operational. This tells you the attitude of the Government is: 'The answer's cameras. So what's the problem?'.

If only a third of the 150,000 vehicles a day using the crossing exceed the limit when able to do so, that's £3 million a day – a hefty profit.

Kent Police will be paid £83,000 a year to enforce the system, so it would be no surprise to find they support the idea.

Drivers know from experience that warning signs are left on well after incidents have been cleared. What guarantee do we have that cameras won't be in operation for, say, three hours morning and evening to enforce a default 50mph or lower limit?

These cameras will be in operation during rush hours – the busiest period. They claim this active management will improve traffic flow, reduce emissions, accidents and driver stress. It's obvious the tolls are the biggest cause of hold-ups at Dartford.

Having widened the A2 and built a new flyover on the London-bound carriageway, drivers will now have to watch their speedometers like hawks.

Department for Transport statistics show speed above the limit is a factor in only six per cent (overall) of accidents, nine per cent of serious injuries and 13 per cent for fatal accidents.

Take any of these figures away from 100 and you can see other factors are a much higher cause of accidents. What's the biggest single cause of road accidents?

Bear in mind we have been told for years that "speed kills", as if it's the dominant cause. The answer is failure to look properly, accounting for about 33 per cent.

Despite this, an estimated £16.5 million will be spent on the M20 cameras, with a claimed benefit of £7.3m saved in reduced accidents and carbon emissions, and better journey-time reliability.

There is no way the 'benefits' can be measured accurately, but the cost is real and you will pay for it in taxes.

The nightmare of using the M25 camera-controlled sections between junctions 10 and 16 – where different and changing limits cause sudden braking and acceleration, creating a test of concentration and nerve – is coming to Kent.

Traffic flow would be smoother if drivers were left to decide for themselves the most appropriate speeds at times of busiest use.

Driving is a complex activity, demanding constant reassessment of conditions. Remote-control of drivers by automatic limits is like a boy playing with a train set. Yet the madness of the M25 is to be forced on Kent.

Stop-start traffic flow also increases emissions. And even if these schemes were effective at reducing emissions, they need to be put into context.

The UK produces two per cent of the world's emissions, with road transport producing 21 per cent of the latter figure or 0.4 per cent of worldwide emissions.

Assuming the M20 and M25 cameras reduced these figures by 10 per cent (a clear overestimate), reductions would amount to 0.00004 per cent, a negligible figure. The real problem is under-capacity of the trunk roads.

Look at Kent's major roads on a map and you'll see north/south traffic forced into the bottleneck of Dartford, and the north/south roads running into the M20 are, with exceptions, inadequate.

While a third lower Thames crossing is desirable, improvements to the A2 still haven't been seriously pushed.

The overdue dualling of the A2 between Lydden and Dover, a revamped Brenley Corner and a widening of the M2 between Gillingham and the A249 turnoff so truckers have an alternative route would turn those claimed benefits into reality. But no, they go for the quick fix of cameras which will make journey times even slower.

Enduring daily jams is bad enough, but to have to risk your licence and cash is a step too far.

•Brian MacDowall is a member of the Association of British Drivers.



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Why are we spending so much on football?

As a Dartford resident, I can't agree with our council leader Jeremy Kite that the huge expenditure on Dartford Football Club is a good thing.

Some £7.5 million was spent on building a stadium in 2006 which I understand the club rents for £1 a year.

Many thousands of pounds in council funds have been spent on maintenance and new facilities, yet I believe Dartford FC keeps all income from the entrance gate, bar and hire of facilities.

With Cllr Kite becoming a director of the club, I understand Dartford FC will now receive £100,000 a year for carrying out maintenance.

It really can't be right for a few hundred football supporters, out of a population of more than 80,000, to receive such largesse when the money could be used by groups helping the elderly, handicapped, young people, the arts and so on. This might not bring as much publicity to our dear leader, but I'm sure most residents would agree it is a fairer use of public funds.

Ron Kipps, Dartford

Self-appointed experts ignoring others' safety

I despair when seeing letters from readers such as Terry Hudson who come across as being either boy racers or older drivers who ought to have more of an adult attitude.

Laws including speed limits are, I'm sure, carefully considered, and ministers do liaise with police, who have first-hand experience and knowledge of today's driving conditions and standards.

But, of course, if these drivers have more expertise in this field, then I apologise.

Mentioned in the letter from Mr Hudson (Kent on Sunday, July 19) is that speed restrictions can be a cause of missed appointments, but surely leaving a little earlier would solve this 'problem'?

Also mentioned is that people caught speeding (those who reckon they should be able to choose how fast they drive) could lose their licence, thus causing family hardship. But surely those who drive for a living should be aware of that?

It is said that if you don't do the crime, you won't do the time. Perhaps if we use common sense, we won't lose the licence.

James Mason, Sittingbourne

Power cut gave us all a glimpse of dark future

I'm sure people used to read in Kent on Sunday of the puerile activities of the climate-change activists at Kingsnorth power station with mild contempt, but the power cut in Dartford lasting three days has given us a taste of the medieval future they want.

In seven years' time the generating capacity of this country will reduce by 40 per cent. Even the Government no longer pretends that power can come from wind turbines and the whole idea of climate change has been exposed as a fraud for some time, so why don't they come up to date and give up?

Kingsnorth is desperately needed and will happen, whether the Scottish party or the Etonian party wins the next election.

Surely the DSS could cut off their benefits until they become available for work and sign on on the right day? Meanwhile, everyone should get some candles in, as we shall need them anyway.

Quentin Williamson, Dartford

Who's this coming up in rear-view mirror?

A recent Kent on Sunday front-page story concerned the rapid decrease in speeding convictions.

The Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership seems to have achieved what it is always claiming it wants, for drivers to obey speed limits.

But of course this has meant a huge drop in revenue, so Kent County Council (a member of the partnership) has just announced, through its regular pages in KoS, that there is to be massive increase in speed reductions starting in the Maidstone, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells areas, with, I am sure, more to come elsewhere in the county.

Labour may have very little in the way of seats in Kent, but it must be a great comfort to them to know that the Conservatives are carrying out their anti-car policies with such zeal.

We should not forget that other great Labour money-spinner, CCTV parking enforcement.

Tory-run Medway Council was one of the first in the country to adopt the system.

Terry Hudson, Herne Bay

Pride has been dented by this sad admission

It is a sad and disappointing admission if, as reported in Kent on Sunday last week, the organisers of Thanet Pride deliberately avoided any reference to the term Gay Pride in its publicity for the day.

And who said the term was "much abused"?

Everywhere else, Gay Pride days are about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities celebrating the fact that they are LGBT.

Heterosexuals are welcome, but Pride days should not be run with an eye on attracting them.

Booking the contestants of a reality television show, who just want to promote their latest record, has obviously backfired.

It is interesting that apparently no one complained about those artists on Thanet Pride day who regularly perform on and support the LGBT scene.

Andrew Brettell, Pride in Canterbury

Letters continue on page 36

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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BIRTHS

BARRON
Masako and Stuart of Broadstairs are delighted to announce the birth of their son Noah Yaguchi Barron, born on 21st July 2009 at QEQM.

BONE
Daniel and Katherine of Teynham celebrate the birth of their daughter Ruby Mamie on 1st July 2009 weighing 8lbs 2oz. Beautiful sister to Megan and Shay.

CARTY
Thomas James born on 17th July 2009, weighing 7lb 14oz. Son to Alex and Charlotte in Snodland.

DARLING VARRALL
Angela Darling and Michael-John Varrall celebrate the birth of their daughter Bethany Tia Ellen Darling Varrall on 7th June 2009 weighing 6lbs 2oz.

LEONARD
Zoe and Chris of Aylesham are over the moon at the arrival of their fourth son, Bobby Christopher, who was born on 25th July 2009 at 6.57am weighing 7lb 8oz. Bobby is the new brother for Callum, Cameron and Ben.

MARTIN
Molly Emelia Martin born on 20th July 2009, weighing 6lb 12oz. Daughter to Kim and Paul Martin of Boughton Monchelsea.

PROWSE
William Stephen born on 19th July 2009, weighing 8lbs 13 oz. Son to Barrie and Gemma Prowse in Maidstone.

RUSSELL
Anita and Daniel of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Isabelle Ann Russell born on 13th July 2009, weighing 7lb 9oz.

SKINNER
Gordon and Sarah celebrate the birth of their son Harrison Samuel Skinner on 13th July 2009 weighing 8lb 8oz.

SMITH
Ellie and Mark of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Isabel, born on 18th July 2009 at QEQM.

WELLS
Chris and Jackie Wells of Teynham celebrate the birth of their son Joshua Mark Christopher on 16th July 2009. Beautiful and precious brother to Ben.

WORTHINGTON
Ross and Kate Worthington celebrate the birth of their daughter Libby Ursa born on 6th July 2009.

DEATHS

DICK
Gordon Dick of Canterbury passed away suddenly at his home on 18th July 2009 aged 41 years. A much loved husband to Haley and loving dad to Georgia, Hannah, Holly and Daniel. Gordon will be deeply missed by all the family and his friends. The funeral will be held at Barham on Monday 3rd August at 2pm. Gordons family request that no black is to be worn, also family flowers only please.

LUKINS
Jean Margaret Lukins died on 23rd July 2009, aged 66. Dearly loved mother of Kerrie, mother in law to Kevin, and grandmother to Lee, Daniel, Gemma and Ryan. Funeral service was held on 29th July 2009 at Barham. Donations to The Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury.

SCHWIESO
Susan Mary Schwieso passed away peacefully on 24th July 2009. Beloved Mother, Nanny and Partner. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever. Enquiries to Horlocks 01474 352159.

WOODS
Peter Stephen sadly passed away on 20th July 2009 surrounded by his family. Beloved son of Doreen and Tony, Brother of Hazel, Sharon and Michele, Father of Stacey and Carly. He will be sadly missed. Funeral has already taken place.

Letters continued from page 35

Shot down in flames

Once again the people of Lydd are the losers as residents and the region are held to ransom by the outrageous report which has just been handed down by the same officers who said they expected limited expansion and modernisation within their own guidelines, set down by Shepway council.

The council has always been against its own airport so it comes as no surprise, coupled with the noise coming from the Lydd Airport Action Group (LAAG), which previously prevented Lydd obtaining a new terminal, extended runway and modern facilities, when Lydd was bypassed in favour of London City airport in the 1980s.

As a person who lived in Tunbridge Wells and used the airport, there were never any complaints about dead birds, planes hitting power stations or threats to the environment when British Air Ferries was flying up to 250,000 people a year to Europe.

My relatives, who live in Hastings and are supporters of a modern Lydd airport and new servces to Europe, are outraged.

They say it is a sad day for Lydd and for what could have been. What's wrong with half a dozen clean, quiet, 737s and Airbus A320s? The airport was a regional one before and could be again.

The management have worked hard and put a lot of money into the airport project, to once again have a bunch of rednecks pull the plug. The people of Lydd deserve better.

Ask your local councillors why – if Southend airport and others are going ahead with their plans – must Lydd residents be treated with contempt.

Voice your concerns to the Secretary of State in Westminster. Tell Shepway councillors you will vote them out of office at the next election. Tell Kent County Council there should be an inquiry into how Shepway council's report was compiled.

I for one won't be reading their lousy report – 153 pages nonsense.

Nigel Waddington, Lydd Airport First

Save energy and jobs

Further cuts in public spending can only lead to job losses in local government, universities, colleges and the civil service.

But each of these sectors can cut their energy demand and make savings to help keep people working.

Energy bills can be cut through energy efficiency measures and introducing renewable energy technologies. New working practices can be introduced which cut energy demand.

But more steps can be taken which will save jobs in Kent and Medway, including: local government and the civil service could allow people to work from home for some of the week to create days when no one is going into a workplace, allowing heating and lighting to be switched off.

Universities and colleges could start their autumn terms earlier, meaning switching off heating for a longer closure period during the winter; raising insulation standards in buildings is a comparatively inexpensive measure which will pay for itself in short periods (there are Government grants available).

Ensuring that when windows are replaced the new windows have high insulation standards. The expansion of teleworking can be used to reduce the amount of office space actually needed by public enterprises, and therefore their energy costs.

Support for staff use of private transport can be cut back to an absolute minimum with incentives to use public transport or a bike. Solar water heating and solar panels should be introduced as both will cut energy bills.

Dr Hazel Dawe, Kent Green Party



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50 top tips



SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS IS A GREAT WAY TO REVITALISE BODY AND SOUL.

Stay safe in the sun

As soon as the warm weather arrives we all want to go out and enjoy it – and why shouldn't we? We all spend far too much time in air conditioned offices gazing wistfully out of the window.

But whether we are enjoying some sun in the Med or in our back garden we still need to protect ourselves.

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK. Right now, around 1,700 people are being treated for malignant melanoma and other skin cancers in the eastern and coastal Kent region.

Most skin cancers are caused by damage from sunburn and could easily be prevented.



1. Apply sunblocks or sunscreens with high sun protection factors (at least factor 15).
2. Take extra care with children – use factor 30 plus. For babies use factor 50 plus.
3. Apply generously and reapply frequently, especially after activities such as swimming or towelling.
4. Wear a wide-brimmed hat to reduce exposure to the face, eyes, head and neck.
5. Limit the amount of time you spend in the sun, particularly between 11am and 3pm.
6. Cover skin with clothing giving good protection - examples are longsleeved shirts and loose clothing with a close weave.
7. Seek shade, but remember sunburn can occur even when in partial shade or when cloudy.
8. Wear wrap-around sunglasses.
9. Remember certain prescribed drugs, medicines, foods, cosmetics and plant materials can also make people more sensitive to sunlight.

Coping with sunburn

Sunburn is when your skin overheats and becomes red and painful and may later peel or blister.

If you get sunburn:

- Cool the skin down by dabbing it with a cool, wet towel or tissue.
- If really bad, take a quick cold shower.
- Don't go back into the sun until you've healed.
- Drink plenty of fluids to replace the water lost through sweating and to cool down.
- Apply calamine or after-sun lotion.
- For adults, painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen can help relieve pain and reduce swelling.

Be prepared for a heatwave

IT'S not just the sun that can be our foe as well as our friend. Continued humidity, especially during a heatwave, can be dangerous too.

The heat can affect anyone, but some people run a greater risk of serious harm, especially the very young, older people and those with serious illnesses.

It can make heart and respiratory problems worse and in extreme cases can lead to heat stroke, which can be fatal.

To stay safe:

10. Keep an eye on children, vulnerable friends and neighbours.
11. Keep plenty of water to hand and stay in the shade where possible.
12. Shut and shade windows when it is hotter outside and open them for ventilation when cooler.
13. Avoid doing things that need lots of effort like sport, DIY or gardening.
14. People with serious health problems (for example heart conditions), should avoid going out in the heat, especially between 11am and 3pm.
15. Drink cold drinks like water or fruit juice regularly and avoid tea, coffee and alcohol.
16. Stay tuned to the weather forecast and plan ahead with supplies – think of elderly neighbours who may need help with supplies.
17. Identify the coolest room in the house to cool down or sleep in.
18. People with respiratory problems should stay inside during the hottest part of the day.



for summer...







HERE ARE YOUR HEALTH'S TOP 50 TIPS ON HOW TO DO IT SAFELY

Enjoy your barbeque in safety

WHAT better way to enjoy a balmy evening than some healthy barbecue food with friends?

Just don't become one of the 965 cases of people in east Kent turned up at accident and emergency with food poisoning last year – that doesn't include those who suffered nasty fire-related injuries either!

When you're cooking on a barbecue, make sure you:

19. Place your barbecue on a level surface, away from plants and trees.
20. Cover the bottom of your barbecue with coal to a depth of no more than 5cm (2in).
21. Use only recognised firelighters or starter fuel, and then only on cold coals.
22. Wait until coals are glowing red with a powdery grey surface before you start cooking.
23. Wash your hands every time you touch raw meat and keep it separate from other foods.
24. Properly thaw frozen meat before you cook it.
25. Turn meat regularly and move it around the barbecue to cook it evenly.
26. Remember that meat is safe to eat only when it is piping hot in the centre, there is no pink meat visible and the juices are clear.
27. Keep prepared food in the fridge wherever possible and don't leave it out in the sun.

Avoid bringing back the worst kind of souvenir

A sexually transmitted infection (STI) or unintended pregnancy can be the worst kind of souvenir to bring home. Last year, more than 2,500 sexually transmitted infections were diagnosed in east Kent genitourinary medicine clinics.

28. Always buy a pack of condoms in addition to your normal contraception.
29. Vomiting, diarrhoea, and some medicines, including some antibiotics and some anti-malaria drugs can make the contraceptive pill and some contraceptive implants less effective so always use a condom to help protect against pregnancy and STIs.
30. Only buy condoms with the CE mark on the packet.
31. Keep condoms away from oil-based products such as suntan lotion, baby oil and lipstick.
32. Store condoms in a cool, dry place.

*** For more help and advice on safer sex, visit your pharmacist, call Sexual Health Direct on 0845 122 8690 or go to www.condomessentialwear.co.uk**

A real stinger

For most people, stings and bites from insects are painful but harmless. However, if you also experience symptoms anywhere else you may be having an allergic reaction and should seek emergency medical treatment.

33. Remove the sting as soon as possible with your fingers or tweezers.
34. Bee stings have a poisonous sac so take care not to puncture it as you remove the sting.
35. Wash the area with soap and water.
36. Put a cold flannel on the area.
37. Raise the part of the body that has been stung or bitten to prevent swelling.
38. Use a spray, or cream, containing local anaesthetic or antihistamine on the affected area to help prevent itching and swelling.
39. Take painkillers, such as paracetamol (if the sting or bite is very painful).
40. Don't scratch the area, as it may become infected.
41. Consult your GP if redness and itching does not clear up after 48 hours.

Have fun outdoors in safety

Summer is a great time for children to get out and experience the world around them. You do need to be aware of safety issues, but this isn't a reason to stop children enjoying activities.

42. Nominate a responsible adult to supervise the children at parties and barbecues.
43. Make sure one adult stays sober to supervise the children.
44. Ask hosts to place medicines and cleaning products out of sight and out of reach.
45. Check the garden regularly for potential hazards, such as tools, ponds or water butts.
46. If children are around barbecues, watch that they don't get too close to hot surfaces.
47. Protect your child from the sun.
48. Be safe around water with your child.
49. Consider taking a first aid course.
50. Follow all these simple steps and you be guaranteed a fun and action-packed summer in the sun.

For more help and advice visit your local pharmacist, call NHS Direct on 0845 46 47 or go to www.nhs.uk

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MP Shaw praises project

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A RECESSION-busting project matching graduates with small and medium-sized firms has been praised by a leading politician.

South East minister Jonathan Shaw visited Canterbury Christ Church University last week to hear how the Business First scheme is helping companies in Kent survive the economic downturn.

The initiative, which provides project-based work placements for graduates, was launched in May after a £311,563 grant from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).



STANDING TOGETHER: Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw, centre, with Business First graduates and supporters

Impressed

Mr Shaw, who is also MP for Chatham and Aylesford, said he was impressed by what he heard.

"In the current economic conditions many of Kent's businesses will be looking for extra talent while graduates from the area are looking for opportunities to launch their careers, despite the climate," he said.

"This project provides employers and graduates with excellent opportunities that will help the South East through the recession and provide it with a stronger and more skilled workforce. It has been very useful and informative to meet some of the graduates who have completed the first round of training and to hear their views."

Business First is run by Christ Church in partnership with the University for the Creative Arts – which has campuses in Rochester, Canterbury and Maidstone – and the universities of Kent and Greenwich.

Mr Shaw spoke with graduates and businesses involved with the scheme at the Hall Place Enterprise Centre, which last month hosted a pilot project called the ideas creation workshop allowing graduates to help shape Government policy.

Audrey Songhurst is director of Christ Church's Centre for Enterprise and Business Development.

She said: "We are delighted the minister took the time to come and speak to graduates and businesses taking part in Business First.

"This project is the first of its kind in Kent and will, thanks to the funding from HEFCE and matched funding from all the universities involved, provide much-needed support to local businesses affected by the recession."

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BUSINESSES from across Kent have been honoured for their commitment to employee training.

Students also received recognition at the South East heat of the Learndirect Achievement Awards, which celebrate the success of people who have overcome personal difficulties or returned to education after many years.

Ruskin Air will represent the region at the national awards ceremony in October in the small/medium company category, along with Learner Support Award-winner Keith Pestell, from Sittingbourne, and Learning Through Work Award-winner Susan Slayford, from Rainham.

Learndirect tutor Mr Pestell was honoured for showing outstanding customer care, while Mrs Slayford used the service to advance her teaching career.

Lecturer's pride

A LECTURER at Canterbury Christ Church University has been made president of the Society and College of Radiographers.

Gill Dolbear, who has been a member of the professional body and trade union for radiographers since 2005, will hold the position for a year. She said: "I feel honoured to be president and hope to make a positive difference to the working lives of members during my presidential year."

Among the best

THE University of Kent's students' union has been shortlisted in the Third Sector Excellence Awards for the third year running.

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Pleasant, helpful personality is also essential.

Please contact David Jackson, Service Manager on 01227 766777

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TEL: 01227 766777
e-mail: david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk
www.baileysnissan.co.uk

swimtime

SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

Swimtime are a national company that teach swimming lessons in 300 pools across the country
WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR ASA OR STA LEVEL 2 SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS IN THANET FOR THE FOLLOWING LESSONS:
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Assistant Manager

Required For Residential Care Home

In Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

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Area Manager

Kent

We are seeking to appoint an Area Manager to join our senior management team in Kent. The role is to ensure the Registered Managers are supported and developed in delivering a high level of childcare within our residential homes across Kent and into SE London

Essential Specification:

A firm foundation in childcare with a Dip.SW / RMA or equivalent qualification.
Substantial knowledge and experience of supporting children who 'are looked after' and the ECM Framework.
Previous Residential / Social work management experience.
A good knowledge and working understanding of National Minimum Standards and the Ofsted inspection process.
Strong motivation and leadership skills.
This role offers an excellent salary (dependant on knowledge and qualifications) and benefit package.

Home Managers

Wanting to further your career? We invite applications from knowledgeable and qualified candidates for this role to ensure that our high level of care practice is maintained within existing staff teams. You will be responsible for ensuring that you lead and develop your team, to meet our expectations on the service our organisation support.
The role offers good salary and benefit packages, including Health Plan, Pension and support from Area Managers.

Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form:
Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ
01843 823762 or email jackie.brandon@ethelberthomes.co.uk

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01843 831491

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For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
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or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

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west kent college

Lecturer in Plumbing | £24,509 - £32,343 pa | Tunbridge Wells

You are an experienced plumber with recognised industry qualifications and some training or teaching experience. So take on a whole new challenge - and enjoy a genuinely rewarding role as you pass on your skills to tomorrow's tradespeople.

Teaching on courses at a range of levels, you will need to be a strong communicator who can engage, inspire and enthuse every one of our students. Of course, you must have first-rate practical skills - as well as a good knowledge of current industry practice.

In return, we will give you all the support you need to develop your teaching career with one of the most successful colleges in the south east. There are also excellent benefits including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options and private health plan.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS08

Closing date: 12 noon on Tuesday 4th August 2009

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following areas:

Lecturer in Sport Ref: P0102

Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 per annum/pro rata. Full time and part time positions available

The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Previous applicants need not apply.

ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer Ref: P0653

Salary: £18,433 - £23,640 per annum

The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Previous applicants need not apply.

Closing date: Friday 21 August 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College · Investors in Diversity · Positive About Disabled People · RBLI · Investors in People

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Hourly Paid Lecturers

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Sessional Lecturers
Hourly rate: £20.37 - £27.17

- Beauty Therapy
- Plumbing/Heating
- Carpentry
- Public Services
- Business Management (Higher Education)
- Catering
- Biology
- Psychology
- Electrical Installation
- Health Care
- Child Care
- Sport
- Brickwork
- Sociology
- Chemistry

Closing date: Friday 14 August 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

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Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Ifield School

Ifield Special School, Cedar Avenue, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5JT
Telephone: 01474 365485

BUS DRIVER

20 hours per week term-time only
New Kent Scheme Grade 3 – Points 7 to 11
(£14,099 to £15,984 per annum pro-rata)

We have a vacancy for a part-time Driver. The successful candidate will be responsible for transporting pupils to and from the school at the beginning and end of the day and for overseeing the school vehicles. There will also be opportunities to assist with maintenance and caretaking duties.

The successful candidate will need to be flexible and self-motivated, have good communication skills and a valid mini-bus licence.

For a job description and application form please contact the headteacher, Mrs Pam Jones.
Website: www.ifieldschool.com
E-mail: ifieldschool@aol.com
Closing date: 17th August 2009

Ifield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.

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The Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham

Exciting opportunities for 2009

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (ACR) Instructor - *c£30k plus package*

MKC Training Services Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of MidKent College, delivers the trade, technical and professional training for the Royal Engineers at Brompton Barracks. This 30 year contract was awarded in 2008 and following a review we now require an additional ACR Instructor to join our team at the RSME.

This is a great opportunity for a qualified and experienced ACR Engineer to move into a teaching role in a professional and disciplined environment where you will find young soldiers eager to learn. You do not need to have formal teaching experience as you will be supported to gain teaching qualifications and will attend relevant courses to build your communication skills.

You should hold City & Guilds 207/2570 or NVQ Level 3 - Air Conditioning and Refrigeration or equivalent and have completed an indentured apprenticeship. (Applications would be welcomed from any Royal Engineer Class1 - HVAC/ACR)

A full Job Description and Application form can be found at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies) or you can forward a CV to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

To discuss your interest in this post or for additional information, please call Ken Pullan on 07725128661. Completed applications should be forwarded to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

Closing date: 10th August 2009

MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MKC Training Services is an equal opportunities employer

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Musical Theatre **Ref: P0654**

Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 pro rata
18.5 hours per week

The Performing Arts department is looking for an experienced professional to teach on its Musical Theatre programmes. Working with students in both Music and Performing Arts the successful candidate would play a key role in the rehearsal and production process of performances. Knowledge and experience of the industry is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Business Management (Higher Education) **Ref: P0653**

Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 pro rata
18.5 hours per week

MidKent College is looking to recruit an exceptional candidate with an innovative and enthusiastic approach to contribute to the teaching of a range of Higher Education Business Management programmes. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills and working knowledge of the Further/Higher Education sector, and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 19 August 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Accounts Clerk

Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
The AA Clifton Ltd group of companies are a small group of family businesses operating at a quick pace. The role is for someone who is honest, responsible, hardworking, but above all flexible. This would be a part-time role to complete the business accounts and general administration of the companies. The role would fall under the responsibility and supervision of the office manager, in the various secretarial and office functions. Other related duties may be assigned at the discretion of the office manager. For more information, please email: alan@aaclifton.ltd.uk or write to: Alan Clifton-Holt, AA Clifton Ltd, Haguelands Farm, Burmarsh, Romney Marsh, Kent. TN29 0JR
To apply/more information: A A Clifton
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email alan@aaclifton.ltd.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

College Receptionist

Canterbury
Salary: £15,085 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
22.5 hours per week
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: R1
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

EXPERIENCED COOK

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Gordon Lodge Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea Requires EXPERIENCED COOK Please contact Debbie or Diane on 01843 831491
To apply/more information: Gordon Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 831491
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

CHEF / COOK

Sevenoaks
Salary: £7.50 p/h
Great Opportunity for CHEF / COOK To cook fresh food for friendly family-owned pub. Full or Part Time position available to include evenings, weekend, and split shifts. Start wage £7.50 p/h. Contact us on 01474 872300 or e-mail val@thewhiteswanpub.co.uk
To apply/more information: White Swan (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 872300
Email val@thewhiteswanpub.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Painters

Hythe
Salary: TBA
As a result of a recent increase in our workload, qualified painters/decorators are required. Applicants must be apprenticed trained and have a sound knowledge of their trade. Having own transport and tools will be an advantage. Apply in writing enclosing CV and references.
To apply/more information: Charlier Construction
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

Night Cleaners x 5

Canterbury
Salary: £6.42 per hour
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
20 hours per week.
Temporary posts to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months. Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/22
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Speech and Language Therapist

Margate
Salary: £37,000 p.a. pro rata
Closing Date: 14th August 2009
Term time only We provide education and care for young deaf people with additional needs including learning and communication difficulties. The post involves assessment, delivery of therapy within a multi-disciplinary team and in close collaboration with parents and carers. British Sign Language training will be provided. Terms and Conditions: Permanent, Term Time only. Salary according to qualifications and experience. We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity, encouraging and welcoming applications from all groups and communities. We expect all staff to be committed to our Child and Adult Protection policies and procedures. All positions are subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check, references, evidence of qualifications and a work history which can be fully checked. For an application pack please contact Human Resources Department, telephone 01843227561, email: hr@royalschoolfordeaf.kent.sch.uk or download an application form from our website: www.rsdcm.org.uk
To apply/more information: Royal School for Deaf Children
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843227561
Email hr@ royalschoolfordeaf.kent.sch.uk

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To advertise in this section or online

01303 817040

Coordinator Theatre Production Arts across Levels 1,2 and 3 courses in Dance and Dramatic Arts

Canterbury
Salary: £27,209 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
18.5 hours per week
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/35
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Physics

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/45
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/81
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Play work/ Early years

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
18.5 hours per week. One year fixed term post

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To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/41
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Temporary Lecturer Animcal Care and Veterinary Nursing

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
37 hours per week, Fixed term post to cover maternity leave not to exceed one year. Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/42
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
18.5 hours per week
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 01/144
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA (pro rata for part time posts)
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
37 or 2 x 18.5 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/30
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Electrical Installation

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
37 hours per week
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/26
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

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01303 817040

Supply Lecturers Higher Education Graphic to teach HND and BA (Hons)

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
in Graphic Design and Advertising Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum. You will have a minimum of a good first degree in a relevant area of design and demonstrate a willingness to contribute to the development of the HE graphic design programmes. Specialist knowledge of typography, editorial design, branding and/or interactive design are essential. You should be able to offer ongoing support to guidance with project work and degree level student dissertations Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/HE/GD
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

International Manager

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/111
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Vocational Team Leader Construction

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £27,209 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/VCT1
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Hairdressing

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
2 x 18.5 hours per week. One year fixed term posts.
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/46 & 09/47
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Construction

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
18.5 hours per week
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/48
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer ICT

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
9.25 hours per week
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/49
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer ICT

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
9.25 hours per week Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/50
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Construction

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £18,963 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 3 August at 12 noon
18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks term time. Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/07
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Class leaders

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £1,000-£2,500 per month
Interested In Health & Wellness? Class leaders wanted for Arriba! Wellness Clubs £1,000-£2,500 per month F/T or P/T Full Training Available Call Sara on 01795 532201 www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk
To apply/more information: Sara Jane Marmont
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532201
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer in Plumbing

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £24,509 - £32,343 pa
Closing Date: 12 noon on Tuesday 4th August 2009 or teaching experience. So take on a whole new challenge - and enjoy a genuinely rewarding role as you pass on your skills to tomorrow's tradespeople. Teaching on courses at a range of levels, you will need to be a strong communicator who can engage, inspire and enthuse every one of our students. Of course, you must have firstrate practical skills - as well as a good knowledge of current industry practice. In return, we will give you all the support you need to develop your teaching career with one of the most successful colleges in the south east. There are also excellent benefits including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options and private health plan. To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS08 Closing Date: 12 noon on Tuesday 4th August 2009
To apply/more information: West Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: KOS08
Tel: 01732 376511
Email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (ACR) Instructor

Medway
Salary: ££30k plus package
Closing Date: 10th August 2009
MKC Training Services Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of MidKent College, delivers the trade, technical and professional training for the Royal Engineers at Brompton Barracks. This 30 year contract was awarded in 2008 and following a review we now require an additional ACR Instructor to join our team at the RSME. This is a great opportunity for a qualified and experienced ACR Engineer to move into a teaching role in a professional and disciplined environment where you will find young soldiers eager to learn.You do not need to have formal teaching experience as you will be supported to gain teaching qualifications and will attend relevant courses to build your communication skills. You should hold City & Guilds 207/2570 or NVQ Level 3 - Air Conditioning and Refrigeration or equivalent and have completed an indentured apprenticeship. (Applications would be welcomed from any Royal Engineer Class1 - HVAC/ACR) A full Job Description and Application form can be found at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies) or you can forward a CV to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk To discuss your interest in this post or for additional information, please call Ken Pullan on 07725128661. Completed applications should be forwarded to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk
Closing Date: 10th August 2009
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07725128661
Email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

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SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Swimtime are a national company that teach swimming lessons in 300 pools across the country WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR ASA OR STA LEVEL 2 SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS IN THANET FOR THE FOLLOWING LESSONS: Mother & Babies/Toddler Swimming lessons for Children Swimming lessons for Adults FOR AFTER SCHOOL & WEEKEND WORK FOR OUR SEPTEMBER TERM CALL NOW FOR FULL DETAILS 07949 966958 - 08700 460427.
To apply/more information: Swim Time
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 08700 460427
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturers

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £27.17 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 14 August 2009
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Sessional Lecturers Hourly rate: £20.37 - £27.17 Beauty Therapy Electrical Installation Plumbing/Heating Health Care Carpentry Child Care Public Services Sport Business Management (Higher Education) Brickwork Catering Sociology Biology Chemistry Psychology. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Musical Theatre

Medway
Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 August 2009
18.5 hours per week The Performing Arts department is looking for an experienced professional to teach on its Musical Theatre programmes. Working with students in both Music and Performing Arts the successful candidate would play a key role in the rehearsal and production process of performances. Knowledge and experience of the industry is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0654
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Business Management (Higher Education)

Medway
Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 pro rata

Is your CV up to date?
take advantage of a free online CV review
JobsforKent.co.uk

Closing Date: Wednesday 19 August 2009
18.5 hours per week MidKent College is looking to recruit an exceptional candidate with an innovative and enthusiastic approach to contribute to the teaching of a range of Higher Education Business Management programmes. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills and working knowledge of the Further/Higher Education sector, and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0653
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Sport

Medway
Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 per annum/pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 21 August 2009
Salary: £20,700 - £29,622 per annum/pro rata. Full time and part time positions available The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Previous applicants need not apply. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0102
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

Ancillary Assistants

Chatham
Salary: See Below
Closing Date: 7th August 2009
Opportunities have arisen for the above positions to carry out all aspects of Ancillary work within our Book Production facility. The successful candidates must have good communication skills and be able to work as part of a team. Previous factory experience working with machinery is desirable but not essential. Full training will be given to those candidates that are successful. Rate of pay dependent on shift(s) Mon-Fri 6.00am - 1.30pm / 1.30pm - 9.00pm for days - £304.52 and Mon - Thurs 9.00pm - 6.00am for nights - £380.65 per week. Shift pattern will vary. To apply: Send applications and CV's to Mrs C Barnes, HR at CPI Mackays of Chatham, Badger Road, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent ME5 8TD by 7th August 2009.
To apply/more information: Mackays of Chatham
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer

Medway
Salary: £18,433 - £23,640 per annum
Closing Date: Friday 21 August 2009
ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer Ref: P0653 **Salary:** £18,433 - £23,640 per annum. The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Previous applicants need not apply. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0653
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Area Manager

Thanet
Salary: TBA
We are seeking to appoint an Area Manager to join our senior management team in Kent. The role is to ensure the Registered Managers are supported and developed in delivering a high level of childcare within our residential homes across Kent and into SE London. Essential Specification: A firm foundation in childcare with a Dip.SW / RMA or equivalent qualification Substantial knowledge and experience of supporting children who 'are looked after' and the ECM Framework. Previous Residential / Social work management experience. A good knowledge and working understanding of National Minimum Standards and the Ofsted inspection process. Strong motivation and leadership skills. This role offers an excellent salary (dependant on knowledge and qualifications) and benefit package. Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form: Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762 or email: jackie.brandon@ethelberthomes.co.uk We are an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information: Ethelbert Children's Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823762
Email jackie.brandon@ethelberthomes.co.uk

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Marketing, Advertising

Marketing Coordinator

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 2 August 09
We require a hands-on professional with a dynamic flair for marketing and promotions, from strategy through to the delivery of campaigns, internal/external advertising and events. You will be expected to provide a clear track record of successful marketing initiatives and, in working closely with the General Manager, bring with you not only an endless amount of energy but also commercially astute business acumen. A competitive package is available for the successful candidate, along with other benefits. To apply please email a covering letter and your CV to Martin McNamara at gm@hildenpark.co.uk
To apply/more information: Hilden Park LLP
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email gm@hildenpark.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Car Technician

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Eclipse Engineering, a division of Eclipse Recovery Services require a qualified Vehicle Technician to work in our busy workshops alongside our existing team. The successful candidate should possess multifranchise car/light van experience and will be required to demonstrate their ability to carry out servicing and repairs to a high standard. This is a permanent position with remuneration dependant upon experience. Candidates must be over 21 and have a full clean driving licence. Apply in writing to: H R Director Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd, The Warren, Ratling Road Aylesham, Canterbury Kent CT3 3BD.
To apply/more information: Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

SERVICE ADVISOR

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Baileys Nissan Canterbury require a SERVICE ADVISOR Previous experience essential. Pleasant, helpful personality is also essential. Please contact David Jackson, Service Manager on 01227 766777 BAILEYS CANTERBURY WESTMINSTER ROAD, VAUXHALL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CANTERBURY, KENT CT1 1YY TEL: 01227 766777 e-mail: david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk www.baileysnissan.co.uk
To apply/more information: Baileys Nissan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 766777
Email david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Home Managers

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Wanting to further your career? We invite applications from current managers or suitably experienced senior residential staff looking to move onto a manager's position. The role is to ensure that our high level of childcare practice is maintained and developed within existing staff teams across Kent. Essential Specification: A firm foundation in childcare with relevant qualifications Good knowledge and experience of supporting children who "are looked after" and the ECM Framework A good knowledge and working understanding of National Minimum Standards and the OFSTED inspection process Strong motivation and leadership skills Candidates with transferable skills from other care sectors may be considered. The role offers an excellent salary (dependant on knowledge and qualifications) and benefits package. Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form: Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762 or email: jackie.brandon@ethelberthomes.co.uk. We are an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information: Ethelbert Children's Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823762
Email jackie.brandon@ethelberthomes.co.uk

CARE HOME MANAGER

Dover
Salary: TBA
5 Years experience with managing care homes for the elderly. Full understanding of regulation legislation. Management and budgetary skill Salary to be negotiated depending on experience Please contact Kate Sheppard for more information. Applecroft Care Home Sanctuary Close River, Dover. CT1 0ER Tel: 01304 821331 - Fax: 01304 821551.
To apply/more information: Applecroft Care Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 821331
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

RGN/RMN

Dover
Salary: TBA
Min Experience 2 Years after registration with NMC. Good Communication Skills Full Time or Part Time If Work Permit required, can be arranged Salary to be negotiated depending on experience. Please contact Kate Sheppard for more information. Applecroft Care Home Sanctuary Close River, Dover CT1 0ER Tel: 01304 821331 - Fax: 01304 821551
To apply/more information: Applecroft Care Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 821331
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Care Assistant

Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
Bethany Lodge Care Home, Dymchurch Requires a Care Assistant To join our team in caring for adults with a physical disability. This is a full time position and involves shift work.NVQ is an advantage but not essential as training will be given. Enhanced rates for NVQ 2 and 3. Tel 01303 872289 for more information and an application form. All applicants will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau check.
To apply/more information: Bethany Lodge/Bethany House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 872289
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, And Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check.
To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Nurses and Care Workers

Kent
Salary: TBA
Abacus Care requires: Nurses and Care Workers to work within abroad range of residential care services Competitive Rates Minimum 6 Months experience & own transport required. For more information Call or email 01227 709468 kent.medway@abacuscare.co.uk or visit www.abacuscare.com
To apply/more information: Abacus Care Kent & Medway
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 709468
Email kent.medway@abacuscare.co.uk

Nurses and Carers

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses,Carers, Domestic Staff required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury,Whitstable, Herne Bay area. For further details please contact: Eileen Laherty Group Manager Email: eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk Mob: 07970051698.
To apply/more information: Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07970051698
Email eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk

Domestic Staff

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses,Carers, Domestic Staff required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury,Whitstable, Herne Bay area. For further details please contact: Eileen Laherty Group Manager Email: eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk Mob: 07970051698
To apply/more information: Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07970051698
Email eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: Salary from £15,250
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £13,250 pa
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £13,250
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week. We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

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BANK WORKERS

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: TBA
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8841
Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

Public Sector, Social Services

Bus Driver

Gravesend
Salary: £14,099 to £15,984 per annum pro-rata
Closing Date: 17th August 2009
New Kent Scheme Grade 3 - Points 7 to 11. We have a vacancy for a part-time Driver.The successful candidate will be responsible for transporting pupils to and from the school at the beginning and end of the day and for overseeing the school vehicles.There will also be opportunities to assist with maintenance and caretaking duties. 20 hours per week term-time only. The successful candidate will need to be flexible and self-motivated, have good communication skills and a valid mini-bus licence. For a job description and application form please contact the headteacher, Mrs Pam Jones. Ifield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.
To apply/more information: Pam Jones
Ifield District Special School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 365485
Email ifieldschool@aol.com

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

TELESALES

Margate
Salary: £300-£500pw
TELESALES £300-£500pw and more! NO EXPERIENCE? FULL TRAINING PROVIDED!! Experienced Telesales up to £800pw and more! Basic plus bonus plus commission. Rapidly expanding company based in Margate seeks positive and self-motivated individuals to sell our unique award-winning products to UK businesses over the phone. Mon-Fri, 09.00 - 17.00 only Contact James on 020 7482 8895 or by e-mail with cv at info@cciglobal.eu
To apply/more information: CCI
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7482 8895
Email info@cciglobal.eu

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Minibus Driver

Chatham
Salary: £6.50/hour
Minibus Drivers required to cover holiday, sickness and adhoc work for our client at several of their sites throughout Medway. Duties involve transportation of passengers to and from designated destinations. Previous experience is preferred. It is also advantageous to have Midas training and a CRB check. Working hours can be over Monday to Sunday.
To apply/more information: Andy or Alex
Best Connection Agency
Quoting Job Ref: Phoenix 3
Tel: 01622 664999
Email maidstone@thebestconenction.co.uk

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THE CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 2005

The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc.) Regulations 2006 (SI2006/1059)

Notice is hereby given of the intention of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council to introduce Orders pursuant to its powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Order One- Removal of dog faeces

This Order will apply to all public open spaces which are in Council ownership, which includes parks, gardens, sportsgrounds, woodlands, and hard surfaces.

This Order will require, if a dog defecates at any time on the land to which this order applies, the person who is in charge of the dog to remove the faeces from the land forthwith.

There will be exemptions for blind people with guide dogs and disabled people using trained assistance dogs.

Order Two – The keeping of dogs on leads by direction

This Order will apply to all public open spaces which are in Council ownership, as above.

This Order will require people in these areas to put and keep a dog on a lead when told to do so by an authorised officer.

Order Three – The exclusion of dogs from land

This Order will apply to any children's play areas in the Councils ownership that are securely fenced and signed at the entrance.

This Order will prohibit people from taking dogs into these areas.

There will be exemptions for blind people with guide dogs and disabled people using trained assistance dogs.

Order Four- The keeping of dogs on leads

This Order applies to Tonbridge Cemetery, closed churchyards in Tonbridge, Haysden Country Park car park, Leybourne Lakes Country Parks car park, and the paths in Leybourne Lakes Country Park leading from the car park to and passed the windsurfing cabin and catering facility all of which are in the ownership of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council.

This Order will require people in charge of a dog to keep it on a lead. There will be exemptions for blind people with guide dogs and disabled people using trained assistance dogs.

Order Five – maximum number of dogs

This Order specifies that the maximum number of dogs which a person may take onto a public open space in Council ownership is four.

Fixed penalty notices

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council intends to issue fixed penalty notices at Level 3 of the Standard Scale to enforce the proposed dog control Orders above as prescribed by Section 59 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. The current level of fine is £80 reducing to £60 if the offender pays in full within 7 days of the offence. Failure to pay the fixed penalty notices will result in prosecution.

Consultation

A list and maps showing the areas affected by Orders Three and Four above will be available for inspection free of charge during normal office hours from Monday to Friday at the addresses below during the consultation period when representations may be made to the Council. Also a draft copy of the Orders will be available on the Councils web site www.tmbc.gov.uk

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling Kent ME19 4LZ

Tonbridge Castle, Customer Services, Castle Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1BG

Any comments regarding these Orders must be sent to the Council within 28 days of the publication of this Notice. Comments must be made by writing to The Chief Leisure Officer, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Leisure Services, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ email leisure.services@tmbc.gov.uk

Chief Leisure Officer
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council
2 August 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/01766/FL – 99 London Road Leybourne West Malling Kent ME19 5EZ – Mr P Cranmer is applying for conversion of existing double garage into annexe for elderly relative. Reason: LB CA PROW HH

TM/09/01616/FL – 90 Chapel Street Ryarsh West Malling Kent ME19 5LW – Mr Dennis Fowler is applying for boundary fence around property. Reason: LB CA HH

TM/09/01759/FL – Asda 1 Alexander Grove Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4SZ – Asda Superstores are applying for installation of new condenser unit supported on steelwork to existing store roof. Reason: HA

TM/09/01779/LB – Yotes Court Mereworth Road Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5JQ – Mr R Ricci is applying for Listed Building Application: First floor study. Incorporate panelling constructed in mahogany retaining the existing softwood shutter boxes skirtings and cornice. Reason: LB CA

TM/09/00624/FL & TM/09/00625/LB – The Olde House Mote Road Ivy Hatch Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0PG – Mr And Mrs Edginton are applying for demolition of existing rear conservatory and replacement with new conservatory. Reason: CA LB HH

TM/09/01632/FL – Palfreys Tonbridge Road Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9AN – Mr Patrick Miller is applying for retrospective application: Extension to rear of garage (revised design of application TM/06/01247/FL). Reason: CA

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
PROW Application affects a Public Right of Way
HA Site is over 1ha.
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 23 August 2009.

David Hughes

Chief Executive

2 August 2009

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of Application for variation of a Premises License

Notice is hereby given that Paul Smith has applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for the variation of a premises license in respect of premises known as Hengist Restaurant, 7-9 High Street, Aylesford. The application seeks the license in respect of the following:

- The sale of alcohol 10.00-02.00
- The provision of regulated entertainment 10.00-00.00
- The provision of late night refreshment 23.00-02.00

Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices (licensing Dept), Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal office hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the council by 22nd August 2009.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5000.

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
A21 TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
DETERMINATION UNDER SECTION 105 A (3) OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

The Secretary of Transport hereby gives notice that he has determined that the proposal to improve the A21 from Tonbridge to Pembury, which is a relevant project within the meaning of section 105A (1) of the Highways Act 1980 is subject to environmental impact assessment in accordance with Part VA of the Highways Act 1980 implementing Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.

Any comments about this notice should be sent to the Highways Agency at the address given below. Any comments should be made as soon as possible preferably before 10 September 2009.

Further information on the project and about this notice may be obtained from the Highways Agency, Federated House, London Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1SZ or from Graham Link on 01306 878122 or from A21tonbridgepembury@highways.gsi.gov.uk

JOHN MARTIN
Highways Agency

The Insolvency Act 1986
CHAUCER CONTRACTING LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No: 02932454

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, David Elliott of Moore Stephens LLP, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4QU was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 24 July 2009.
David Elliott, Liquidator

To advertise in this section ✆ 01303 817040



Highways - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(EAST STREET, ASHFORD) (ONE WAY) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the following effect:-

EAST STREET - ASHFORD Will become one-way from the south side of the proposed access road into Latitude Development to the northern channel of the carriageway of Elwick Road (a distance of 47 metres)

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, between 9.00am and 5pm and at Invicta House, Maidstone.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Robert Mowl at the Transport & Development Agreement Team, Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to Robert.mowl@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 24 August 2009.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS) (BOROUGH OF ASHFORD) (SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No 6) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will extend the 40 mph speed limit on the following length of road.

A28 ASHFORD ROAD, BETHERSDEN

from the western termination point of the existing 40 mph speed limit for a distance of 2110 metres in a south westerly direction.

NB The length of 40 mph speed limit on A28 Ashford Road, Bethersden , including the proposed length will be 3900 metres.

The Order was signed on 27 July 2009 and will come into force 3 August 2009.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, between 9.00am and 5pm, at Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford and at Invicta House, Maidstone.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BLUEBELL ROAD FOOTPATH) (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new water main, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order closing Bluebell Road Footpath for its whole length from Bluebell Road eastwards, on or after 20 August 2009, for an estimated period of 30 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for pedestrians will be via Acorn Close or Wood Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PICKELDEN LANE, CHILHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the reconstruction of Stile Farm Bridge, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pickelden Lane, Chilham, between the Level Crossing and the junction with Stile Farm Road, on or after 17 August 2009, for an estimated period of up to 9 months or until the works are complete.

The works will be carried out in two phases, with the full road closure not being required until the second phase of the works. However, the road may be closed on certain occasions during the first phase, as and when signs and barriers are displayed on site.

The planned phases are as follows

(a) August 2009 - early December 2009 - site set-up and temporary diversion of utility services

(b) December 2009 - May 2010 - demolition and reconstruction of bridge.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A28 Canterbury Road, Shalmsford Street, Chartham Downs Road, Mystole Lane and Mystole Road.

This Order will come into force from 17 August 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HARVEY ROAD, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Harvey Road, Ashford, between the junction with Foxglove Road and the entrance to the car park for 20-22 Cradle Bridge Drive, on or after 3 August 2009, for an estimated period of two weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be westbound via Harvey Road, Earls Avenue, Hythe Road and Foxglove Road and eastbound via Foxglove Road, Hythe Road and Sprotlands Avenue.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GARLINGE GREEN ROAD, PETHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repairs are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Garlinge Green Road, Petham from its junction with Chartham Downs to Garlinge Court Farm on or after 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of 12 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Chartham Downs, Kenfield Road and Garlinge Green Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(UPPER CHANTRY LANE AND OATEN HILL, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because duct installation works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting Westbound through traffic on Upper Chantry Lane and Oaten Hill, Canterbury from or after 2nd August 2009 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until the works are complete.

Specified Road	Dates	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Upper Chantry Lane	2 August for 3 weeks	Closed to Westbound traffic only	St. Georges Place, Upper Bridge Street and Old Dover Road
Oaten Hill	2 August for 1 week	Closed to Westbound traffic only	Upper Chantry Lane
Cossington Road	2 August for 1 week	At junction with Oaten Hill	Old Dover Road and Oaten Hill

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ST PETER'S STREET, CANTERBURY) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out from 3 August 2009 for a period not exceeding 18 months, the Kent County Council has made an Order that the restriction that prohibits its vehicles from turning from St Peter's Place into St Peter's Street shall be temporarily suspended as and when the No Entry sign(s) at the northern end of St Peter's Street are covered over and not on display.

This temporary removal of this restriction has been introduced to permit construction vehicles to access the Marlow Theatre site along the shortest route from the main road network.

The normal restrictions of the pedestrian zone will still apply during this construction period, except for permit holders.

At the end of 18 months this notice may be extended for a further period.

Highways - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROAD, DOVER) (EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under Section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce or extend experimentally no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

Menzies Road – on both sides for the entire length (this will encompass the existing double yellow lines at the junction with Honeywood Road)

Focal Point Road – On both sides from the centre of the roundabout junction with Palmerstone Road for a distance of 40 metres in a southerly direction.

Palmerston Road – On both sides from the centre of the roundabout junction with Menzies Road/Focal Point Road for a distance of 117 metres in an easterly direction.

Willingdon Road – On both sides from the centre of the roundabout junction with Menzies Road for a distance of 155 metres in an easterly direction.

Gordon Road – On both sides from the junction with Menzies Road for a distance of 100 metres in a north westerly dirtection.

The Order was made on 27 July 2009 and will come into force on 3 August 2009.

The experimental order is being promoted by Kent Highway Services in the interest of public safety and to maintan access to businesses.

The Kent County Council will be considering in due course whether the provisions of this experimental Order should continue in force indefinitely.

Any alterations to this Order which will render it less restrictive may be authorised by the Transportation Manager, without the requirement to re-advertise the Order, under section 10(2) of the said Act, and after consultation with the chief officer of police.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order, may be examined at the offices of the Kent Highway Services at Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent and at Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover on Monday to Friday during normal opening times.

Within the period of 6 months of the coming into force of the Experimental Order any person may object to this Order prior to making the Order permanent. If you wish to object to the Experimental Order you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to the Transport & Development Team (Dover), Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to t&d.dover.shepway@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 26 January 2010.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS) (GOODNESTONE) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the Order will extends the 30 mph speed limit on the following lengths of roads in Goodnestone Village.

Name of Road	Length of Road
Cave Lane	Between points 140 metres south east and 320 metres north west of the junction with Boyes Lane
Boyes Lane	From the junction with cave Lane to the junction with Saddlers Hill
Saddlers Hill	Entire length
Catshole Hill	From a point in line with the centre line of The Street for a distance of 40
Goodnestone Hill	From the junction with Saddlers Hill for a distance of 100 metres to the eastern boundary of Hop View
The Street	Entire length
School Lane	Entire length
Park View Close	Entire length

The Order was signed on 31 July 2009 and will come into force 3 August 2009.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays between 9.00am and 5pm, at Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford and at Invicta House, Maidstone and at Goodnestone Stores, Saddlers Hill, Goodnestone

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CUMBERLAND AVENUE & NORTHUMBERLAND ROAD, SHEPWAY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Cumberland Avenue between Suffolk Road and Owletts Close and Northumberland Road between Cumberland Avenue and Cambridge Crescent next to Gloucester Road on or after Monday 17th August 2009 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed. The closures will run concurrently.

The alternative route for Cumberland Avenue is via Suffolk Road, Oxford Road, Northumberland Road and for Northumberland Road is via Northumberland Road, Cambridge Crescent.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for replacing existing road humps. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Andy Padgham on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in Column 3 of that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 3rd August 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 5 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The anticipated dates of works are listed in column 1.

Specified Road and Proposed Start Date and Duration	The Section affected	The alternative routes
Albion Place 3rd August 2009 for a duration of 14 days	Between King Street and Brooks Place	Via King Street, Queen Anne Road, Brooks Place
Albion Place 17th August 2009 for a duration of 14 days	Between Brooks Place and A249 Albion Place	Via Brooks Place, Queen Anne Road, Union Street, Sittingbourne Road, Albion Place, Andrew Broughton Way, Ashford Road, King Street
Watt Tyler Way 31st August 2009 for a duration of 3 nights	A249 between southern end of northbound slip road and junction Albion Place	Via King Street, Albion Place
Square Hill Road 30th November 2009 for a duration of 21 days	From junction with Ashford Road 25m south	Via Ashford Road, Watt Tyler Way, Mote Road
Church Street 11th January 2010 for a duration of 7 days	Between entrance and exit ramps of public car park	Via Marsham Street, Wyatt Street, Union Street, Sittingbourne Road, Andrew Broughton Way, Ashford Road, King Street

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for gas mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Adsley on 07774 983419.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
NIGHTINGALE LANE, IDE HILL, SUNDRIDGE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Nightingale Lane, Ide Hill, Sundridge between Garden Cottage and The Bungalow.

The Order will become effective on 17th August 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Gracious Lane Chevening, B2042 Wheatsheaf Hill Sundridge, and Nightingale Lane Sundridge.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the installation of a new electrical supply.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CHART LANE, BRASTED (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Chart Lane, Brasted between its junctions with Emmetts Lane to A25 Main Road/High Street Brasted.

The Order will become effective on 3rd August 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 8 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the route described above will be via:

Local Traffic Diverted via: Emmets Lane, New Road, A25 Main Road

Main Diversion via: B2042 Green lane, B269 Pootings Road, Spout lane, B2026 Hosey Common Road / Hosey Hill, A25 Brasted Road / Westerham Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the installation of a sewer connection.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(COOLINGE LANE FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new foul sewer and associated works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Coolinge Lane Folkestone from its junction with Sandgate Road to its junction with Bathurst Road on or after 10 August 2009 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic northbound will be via Sandgate Road, Grimston Avenue, Shorncliffe Road and Bathurst Road. Southbound via Bathurst Road, Shorncliffe Road, Grimston Avenue and Sandgate Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(THE ROW, ELHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new telecommunications ducting works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on The Row, Elham from its junction with the High Street, Elham to the junction with Vicarage Lane on or after 11 August 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via High Street, New Road and Vicarage Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BLACKHOUSE HILL, HYTHE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because foul sewer repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Blackhouse Hill, Hythe from its junction with Station Road to the junction with Cliff Road, outside and opposite 15 Blackhouse Hill on or after 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Tanners Hill, School Road, Sandling Road, Ashford Road and Bargrove.

Highways - Borough of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WHITSTABLE ROAD, FAVERSHAM IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING, PROHIBITION OF LOADING AND UNLOADING) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) and 3(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order has the following effect of introducing no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following length of road in:-

WHITSTABLE ROAD (1) On the northern side from a point 15 metres west of the centre line of the junction of Abbey Fields to a point 90 metres east of the centre line.

(2) On the southern side

(a) from a point 135 metres east of the centre line of the junction of the new commercial access road to a point 30 metres east of the centre line and southwards into the new residential access road both sides for 9 metres from the give way line.

(b) from a point 23 metres west of the centre line of the junction of the new residential access road to a point 20.5 metres east of the centre line and southwards into the new residential access road both sides for 9m from the give way line.

The Order was signed on 27 July 2009 and will come into force 3 August 2009.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Borough Council offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent during normal opening hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MUNSGORE LANE, BORDEN) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of drainage works, installing new gullies and kerbing, and cleaning soakaways, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Munsgore Lane, Borden, at Sunnyhill, on or after 17 August 2009, for an estimated period of three weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via School Lane, Pond Farm Road and Oad Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(TUNSTALL ROAD, TUNSTALL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Safety Improvements works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Tunstall Road, Tunstall from its junction with Cranbrook Drive to its junction with Hearts Delight Road on or after 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Woodstock Road, Park Avenue, Bradley Drive, Minterne Avenue, Riddles Road, Borden Lane, Banister Hill, Hearts Delight and Hearts Delight Road.

This order will come into force on Monday 17 August 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No 20) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be:-

London Road: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on both sides from the junction with Nethercourt Hill to a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 98 and 100 Nethercourt Hill;

Chilton Lane: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the Eastern side from the junction of London Road for a distance of 15 metres in a southerly direction;

Kendal Close: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on both sides from the junction with Canterbury Road East for a distance of 12 metres in a northerly direction;

Canterbury Road East: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the northern side from a point 5 metres west of the junction with Kendal Close to Nethercourt Circus roundabout;

Canterbury Road East: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the southern side from a point 7 metre west of the western boundary of No. 1 Chilton Lane to the junction with Nethercourt Circus roundabout;

Nethercourt Hill: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the southern side from the junction with London Road for a distance of 15 metre in a north easterly direction;

Nethercourt Hill: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the western side from a point opposite a point 4 metres south west from the northern building line of No 34 Nethercourt Hill to a point in line with the northern boundary of Upper Lodge;

Nethercourt Hill: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the eastern side from a point adjacent to a point 4 metres south west of the northern building line of No 34 Nethercourt Hill to a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 10 and 12 Nethercourt Hill;

Nethercourt Hill: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on both sides from a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 4 and 6 Nethercourt Hill to the junction with High Street St Lawrence;

Nethercourt Gardens: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on both sides from a point in line with the western building line of Nos 4 and 12 to the junction with Nethercourt Hill;

High Street St Lawrence: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the eastern side from the junction with Nethercourt Hill to a point in line with the common boundary of No 2 Southwood Gardens and No 96 High Street St Lawrence;

High Street St Lawrence: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the western side from the junction with Nethercourt Hill to a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 83 and 85 High Street St Lawrence;

Southwood Gardens: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the southern side from a point in line with the common boundary Nos 1 and 3 Southwood Gardens to the junction with High Street St Lawrence;

Nethercourt Farm Road: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on both sides from a point in line with the western boundary of No 93 High Street St Lawrence to the junction with High Street St Lawrence.

The Order was signed on 27 July 2009 and will come into force 3 August 2009.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

Highways - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LITTLE MOUNT SION, TUNBRIDGE WELLS OUTSIDE AND OPPOSITE NUMBER 45) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Little Mount Sion Tunbridge Wells outside and opposite number 45 on or after Sunday 23rd August 2009 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Berkley Road and Mount Sion and for westbound traffic vice versa.

Murphy Limited apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install and disconnect cable and joint bay. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Rummery on 079201 50893.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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Which Honda is most reliable?

By **STEVE LOADER**

WHICH? Magazine set out to find Britain's most reliable car and found it was more a question of 'which Honda is most reliable?'.

For the Japanese brand not only took first place (99 per cent score) with the stylish and current Accord family model (main picture), but also scooped second place with the current Jazz supermini (98 per cent). Remarkably, Honda captured four of the top-ten places in all.

Some 77,000 UK drivers joined in the Consumer Association/Which? 2009 customer satisfaction survey, with results based on breakdowns, faults and niggles on some 84,000 cars over a 12-month period.

The Daihatsu Sirion – also with 98 per cent and Japanese – tucked in behind the Hondas, while the fourth-placed Hyundai i30 (97 per cent) showed how far and fast Korean brands have come in the past few years.

Other top-10 runners and marques were the latest Ford Fiesta (96.2), 2002-2008 Honda Jazz (95.9), current Honda Civic Hybrid (95.7), Citroën C1 (95.7), 2004-9 Toyota Priïuus (95) and 2004-2008 Mazda3 (94.4).



BOTTOM SPOT: Audi A5 coupe came last in Which? Magazine's 121-car reliability league

Despite the much-vaunted reputation of German brands, the survey showed a so-so performance on reliability with the back marker being one of the most desirable executive models around. Audi's A5 coupe was left propping up the 121-car league, with the bottom 10 also including the current Hyundai Santa Fe, Volvo XC90, current Land Rover Freelander and Discovery, Ford S-Max and Galaxy, Alfa Romeo 159 and the Jaguar S-Type (1999-2007) and its newly-launched replacement, the XF.

Which? editor, Richard Headland, said: "Owning a reliable car can make the difference between getting your summer holiday off to a flying start and sitting on the hard shoulder of the M6.

"You can't do better than the Honda Accord, which is one of the most reliable cars we've ever surveyed.

"Japanese cars, in the main, seem to run like clockwork, although there are a few exceptions to the rule. It's also encouraging to see good reliability scores for the bestselling Ford Fiesta and other small, economical cars."

The Which? findings were also echoed by insurance specialist Warranty Direct after surveying the most dependable used cars (3-6 years old) for 2009.

Honda claimed top spot there too, with fellow Far East manufacturers Mazda, Toyota, Subaru, Nissan and Mitsubishi close behind in the Top 10. Rugged off-road specialist Land Rover was one of the worst performers.

However, European brands tend to be cheaper to put right when they do go wrong. Skoda models cost least to repair, with Citroën, Renault, Peugeot, Ford, Seat, Vauxhall, VW and Fiat also showing well.

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INSIDE



Market switches on to Prius Page 54



Warranty wars on horizon? Page 55



Peugeot improves croptop Pages 58-59

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35 monthly payments of	£199
On the road price	£16,595
Dealer deposit contribution*	£3,454.52
Customer deposit	£1,999
Total amount to be financed	£11,141.48
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment plus credit facility fee and option to purchase fee	£5,198.83 £149
Total amount payable by customer	£14,361.83
5.9% APR Excess miles over 6,000 p.a.	typical 6p per mile



New Mégane Coupé World Series by Renault Special Edition

- Sport styling pack (front, rear diffuser and side skirts, body coloured bumper inserts, rear spoiler, Coupe style front grills), WSR badging, 17" alloys
- Hands Free Renault card
- 6 Airbags • RDS radio/CD Player with Bluetooth/MP3 connection
- Air conditioning

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Renault Mégane Coupe WSR 110hp	
36 monthly payments of	£279
On the road price	£16,995
Dealer deposit contribution*	£1,091
Customer deposit	£1,999
Total amount to be financed	£13,905
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment plus credit facility fee and option to purchase fee	£5,341 £149
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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Clio WSR 1.2 16V 75hp are: Urban 37.2 (7.6), Extra Urban 57.6(4.9), Combined 47.9 (5.9). The official CO2 emission figure is 139g/km and for the Mégane WSR 1.6 110hp are: Urban 30.7 (9.2), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 40.9 (6.9). The official CO2 emission figure is 162g/km.

*Prices shown include delivery to dealer, number plates, 15% VAT, 12 months' Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Finance is subject to status. A guarantor may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) to apply for finance. Finance offer is provided by Renault UK and RCI Financial Services Ltd., P.O. Box 493, Watford WD17 1FJ. **Accident, Sickness and Unemployment cover is available free of charge for the first 12 months of the finance agreement and will cover your monthly finance repayments for a maximum period of 12 months. It is available with any RCI Financial Services agreement on new Renault vehicles. Terms and Conditions apply (please see the Key Facts and Policy Document available at your nearest dealer). Insurance provided by Pinnacle Insurance PLC, Pinnacle House, A1 Barnet Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire WD6 2XX. This offer applies to vehicles (excluding the Renault Twingo range, Clio Extreme and Clio Renaultsport) ordered and registered by 30th September 2009 and is available to retail customers only. This offer is correct at time of going to press and is available at participating FSA authorised dealers only.

TYPICAL **5.9% APR**

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



Market switching on to the Toyota 3G Prius

TOYOTA'S third-generation Prius arrived this week as mainstream motor rather than curio.

The previous version showed private-car-buyers and company 'user-choosers' just how the petrol-electric car could deliver long-term economy and taxation benefits, packaged within a practical five-door family hatchback.

Its successor promises even more functionality and style, with 35 per cent more power and 23 per cent and 25 per cent better fuel consumption and CO_2 emissions than the original 2000 Mark I.

The new car (from £18,370) has a 1.8-litre petrol engine in place of the former 1.5 unit, boosting power 24 per cent to 134bhp when working in tandem with the electric motor.

This counters the Mark II's poor motorway economy; cruising efficiency is up 10 per cent now, with an official combined fuel consumption of 72.4mpg.

Low CO_2 emissions (89g/km) mean zero road tax and it can be switched to electric running only, producing zero emissions for up to two kilometres at speeds up to 31mph – ideal for school runs and shopping.

Big Mini savings



BMW's Mini has never been an obvious bargain, but a new Mini First option changes all that.

Priced from £10,950, it undercuts the previous Mini One entry model by some £1,400.

The catch is that while the First uses the same 1.4-litre petrol engine as the One, it develops just 75bhp compared with 94bhp, making it more than two seconds slower to 60mph – 13.2 seconds against 10.9.

But you still get a six-speed manual gearbox and go-kart handling, plus the BMW Group's energy/emissions-saving system, known as 'Minimalism' in Minis, including 'Auto Start-Stop', brake energy regeneration and a dashboard indicator for optimum gear-changing.

As hinted in the first line, the First should also benefit from the Mini's least obvious but best money-saving virtue – slow depreciation.

Even this budget version should retain 50 per cent of its value after three years/30,000 miles and dealers offer a purchase plan costing as little as £99 a month.

Peugeot's 'Economique' reality

PEUGEOT plans a 207 supermini-based challenger to Ford's greenest Fiesta, the ECOnetic.

The three- or five-door 207 Economique and Economique + models arrive in October priced from £12,995 and powered by a 90bhp 1.6-litre HDi diesel emitting just 99g/km of CO_2 and qualifying for road tax exemption.

Eco features include special engine management, a heat-exchanger to cool re-injected exhaust gases, 'leggier' five-speed manual gearbox and aerodynamic tweaks such as lowered ride height, aerodynamic wheel trims, two-part rear-spoiler and low-rolling resistance tyres.



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FRONT BRAKES & DISCS	£139.99	£195.05	£178.99
CLUTCHES	£329.99	£466.74	N/A

Price comparisons based on a 2004 Peugeot 206 1.4 petrol model, competitors prices taken from their web sites, comparison prices correct on 23/07/09, prices do not take into account any local special offers.

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Warranty wars on the horizon?

by STEVELOADER

BRITAIN'S recession looks set to spark a motoring conflict in the offing for several years – warranty wars.

Most carmakers offer a standard three-year/60,000 miles, but a few have tabled packages of five or more years in a bid to put their names on buyers' radar and reassure them about reliability.

The subtext is that five years also brings more regular servicing work for dealers and, with many people opting to swap cars after three years anyway, the chance to sell them a new car of the same brand while retaining the old car for the dealer network, where used values can be better controlled and helped by the remaining warranty.

The approach has worked well for the Korean Hyundai-Kia combine, with the former offering a five-year/unlimited mileage package across all cars and the latter giving a seven-year/100,000-mile peace-of-mind deal on selected models including its big-selling Ford Focus-class Ceed range.

Little-known Toyota sub-sidiary, Daihatsu has also boosted sales with a five-year/unlimited package and Subaru this week announced entry to the club with a 'fabulous 5/5/5' deal.

This comprises a five-year/100,000-mile warranty, five-year/60,000-mile free servicing package, plus five years' home and roadside assistance throughout the UK and Europe.

In short, five years' of worry-free ownership for the 4x4 Japanese marque, which has struggled for sales lately despite a hard core fanbase who like its country set Legacy and Outback estates as well as the rally-bred Impreza.

It has blasted back with a technologically impressive diesel engine, but clearly wants to force the pace using the new easy ownership deal.

The pressure is now on other marques to match the 'High Five Club' deals as recession-hit drivers worry less about badge and image and more about running costs and reliability.

The fact that longer warranties are not just window dressing will also not be lost on consumers; Which? Magazine's quest to find Britain's most reliable car was dominated by less fashionable brands that offer above average warranties (see Driving cover story).

Honda topped the league; it only offers a three-year warranty, but high mileage buyers at least get the reassurance of a 90,000-mile maximum instead of the usual 60k.

Daihatsu's Sirion and the Focus-class Hyundai i30 were also highly placed.



SUBARU: Takes 'high five' approach to boost models like its Impreza family hatchback



DAIHATSU SIRION: Comes with five-year warranty plus proven reliability says Which?

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Official government fuel consumption figures (mpg/litres per 100km) for the smart fortwo cdi: urban 83.1/3.4, extra urban 88.3/3.2, combined 85.6/3.3, CO2 emissions 88 g/km.

Model featured is the new smart fortwo cdi cabriolet passion at £10,880.42 on the road (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel). Including Crystal white paint at £0.00, Tridion safety cell in silver at £0.00 and Design beige interior at £0.00.

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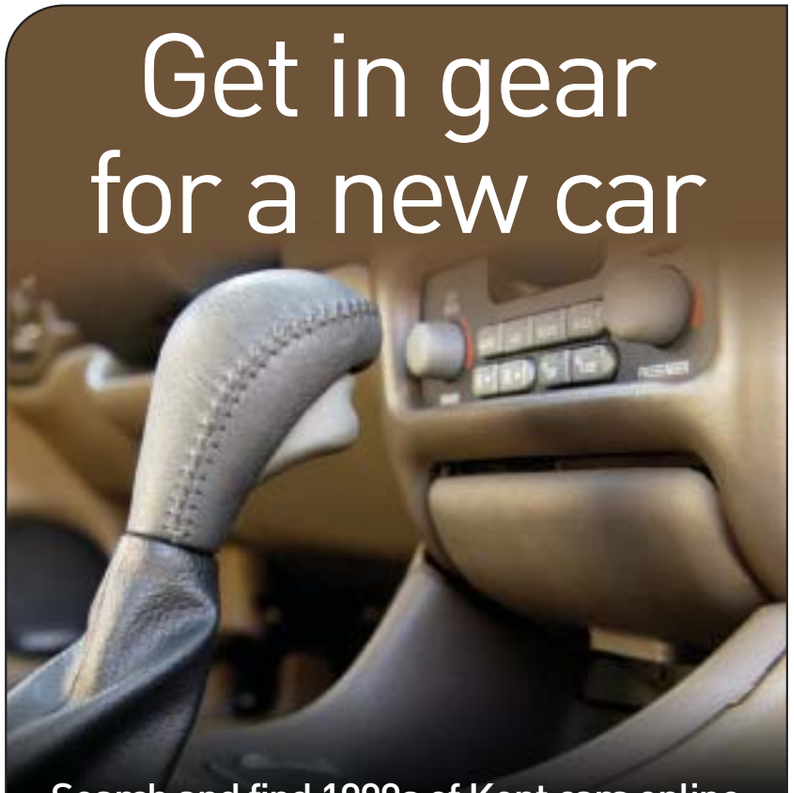
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THE OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100KM) AND CO2 EMISSIONS (G/KM) FOR THE 207cc Sport 1.6 VTi: URBAN 32.1 (8.8), EXTRA URBAN 53.2 (5.3), COMBINED 43.4(6.5), CO2 155 (G/KM),
PRICES QUOTED ARE ON THE ROAD AND INCLUDE DELIVERY TO DEALERSHIP, NUMBER PLATES, 12 MONTHS' GOVERNMENT VEHICLE EXCISE DUTY, £55.00 GOVERNMENT FIRST REGISTRATION FEE AND £2,000 GOVERNMENT SCRAP BONUS (£1,000 FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND £1,000 FROM PEUGEOT). CUSTOMER SAVINGS RELATE TO SAVINGS AGAINST PUBLISHED LIST PRICE OF VEHICLE. OFFERS SUBJECT TO STATUS. OVER 18S ONLY. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM PEUGEOT FINANCIAL SERVICES, QUADRANT HOUSE, PRINCESS WAY, REDHILL RH1 1QA. ^THIS PAYMENT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE MADE IF YOU CHOOSE TO HAND YOUR CAR BACK TO PEUGEOT. OFFERS APPLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED FROM 18TH MAY 2009 UNTIL SUCH POINT AS THEY MAY BE WITHDRAWN PEUGEOT MOTOR COMPANY PLC AT ITS DISCRETION. OFFERS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. *TO QUALIFY FOR THE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT, VEHICLES REGISTERED ON OR BEFORE 31ST JULY 1999 MUST BE PRESENTED WITH A CERTIFICATE OF DESTRUCTION (C.O.D), PROVIDED BY AN AUTHORISED TREATMENT FACILITY (ATF), A V5, VALID MOT, BE INSURED, LEGAL TO BE DRIVEN ON THE HIGHWAY AND HAS BEEN REGISTERED IN THE CUSTOMERS NAME FOR A MINIMUM OF 1 YEAR WHEN TRADED IN AGAINST A NEW CAR. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT WWW.PEUGEOT.CO.UK/SCRAPPAGE. PRICES, OFFERS AND INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. MODEL SHOWN IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.

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AGILA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver	TBA	8795
08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	TBA	8995
08	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	6,450	9,995

ASTRA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Astra Design Estate	1.6	5	Pannacotta	34950	6,995
06	06	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	37,500	6,995
06	56	Astra Elite CDTi	1.9	5	Ultra blue	37,950	8,995
06	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Star silver	39,340	7,495
06	06	Astra Club E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	41,120	6,695
07	07	Astra Design Sports hatch	1.6	3	Power red	26,340	8,995
07	57	Astra Elite Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	16,880	9,250
07	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	8,995
08	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	13,250	9,995
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	15,890	9,695
08	08	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Star silver	2,110	8,995
08	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	10,995
08	58	Astra Club CDTi Estate	1.7D	5	Technical grey	14,450	9,995
08	58	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	6,650	10,495
08	58	Astra Exclusiv T/T	1.8	2	Panacotta	12690	14995
08	58	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,100	10,495

CORSA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Corsa Sxi Plus	1.2	3	Silver lightening	30,725	5,695
07	07	New Corsa Sxi	1.4	3	Flame red	30,750	7,695
08	08	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	5,770	8,895
08	58	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,995
08	58	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,380	9,495
08	08	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Star silver	4,350	8,995
08	58	New Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	3	Metro blue	6,100	9,995
08	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Ultra blue	9,495	9995
08	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	7,750	9695

INSIGNIA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	4,060	20,995

MERIVA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	10,995
08	58	Meriva Life	1.4	5	Air blue	3,720	8,995

VECTRA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Vectra Exclusive CDTi (150ps)	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	7460	10995

ZAFIRA



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Zafira Club Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	37,280	7,495
08	58	Zafira Breeze CDTi Plus	1.9D	5	Metro blue	12,600	12,995

OTHER MAKES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	53*	Rover 25 Auto	1.6	5	Blue	51,350	3,495
06	56	Ford Fiesta Zetec Climate	1.2	5	Metallic blue	26,350	6,495

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Corsa Design Auto	1.4	5	Star silver	22,700	8,495
07	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Air blue	15,300	7,795
07	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	24,000	8,395
04	04	Astra LS Auto	16	5	Star silver	32,500	3,695
09	09	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	TBA	18,995
09	09	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto (160)	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	TBA	22995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (160)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	TBA	17,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (180)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	TBA	17,995
09	09	Insignia SR Nav (160)	1.9D	5	Technical grey	TBA	21.995
09	09	Tigra Exclusive	1.4	2	Antigua	TBA	13,995
06	56	Meriva Life A/c CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	26,000	7,995

COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES - CARS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Steel silver	TBA	8,995
08	58	Agila Club	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	4,850	8595
08	58	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9245
09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/C	1.3	3	Black sapphire	TBA	10,495
09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	3	Flame red	TBA	10,495
09	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Black sapphire	TBA	10,495
09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	TBA	8,995
09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Metro blue	TBA	9,495
09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	TBA	9,495
09	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	TBA	9,995
09	09	Corsa Design In Touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,995
09	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	TBA	9,995
09	09	Corsa Sxi In touch	1.2	3	Flame red	TBA	9,495
08	58	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	TBA	13,495
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	TBA	11,995
09	09	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Metro blue	TBA	12,995
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	TBA	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	TBA	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	TBA	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Metro blue	TBA	10,345
09	09	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Black sapphire	TBA	13,995
08	58	Vectra Exclusiv CDTi (150ps)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	TBA	10995
09	09	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	TBA	11,995
09	09	Zafira Active CDTi	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	TBA	13,995
09	09	Zafira Exclusiv CDTi	1.9D	5	Sovereign silver	TBA	13,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv	1.8	5	Black sapphire	TBA	14,995

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ASTRAVAN



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
08	08	Astravan	1.7CDTI Club Plylined	White	7,000	£8,995	£7,995
09	58	Astravan	1.7CDTi Sportive CDTi	Star silver	1,750		£9,995

CORSAVAN



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
08	58	Corsavan	1.3CDTi Sportive	Star silver	Delivery	£7,995	£6,995

COMBO



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
07	07	Combo	1.3CDTi Crew van	White	8,700	£7,995	£7,495

MOVANO



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
06	56	Movano	2.5 CDTi LWB 100bhp	Silver	19,700	£9,995	£8,995
07	57	Movano	2.50CDTi Long wheel base	White	10,300	£12,995	£10,995
08	08	Movano	2.5CDTI MWB, Plylined	White	11,050	£11,995	£10,495
08	08	Movano	2.5CDTI LWB Plylined	White	6,460	£13,995	£11,995
08	58	Movano	2.5CDTI MWB H/R Plylined	White	14,050	11,995	£10,995

VIVARO



Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
05	55*	Vivaro	1.9CDTI Long wheel base	Red	57,500	£8,995	£7,995
06	06*	Vivaro	1.9DTi Short wheel base	White	51,000	£6,495	£6,245
07	57	Vivaro	2.0 CDTi Short wheel base	White	12,100	£9,495	£7,995
08	08	Vivaro	2.0 CDTI Plylined, LWB	White	5,050	£10,995	£9,295
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTI Plylined, SWB	White	16,050	£9,795	£8,495
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi Plylined, SWB	White	16,650	£9,795	£8,495
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi Plylined, SWB	White	3,770	£9,995	£8,795
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTI Plylined, SWB	White	6,205	£9,995	£8795
08	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTi SWB, Ply lined	White	950		£9,995

PRE-REG VEHICLES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Colour	M/age	WAS	NOW
08	58	Corsavan	1.3 CDTi	White	Delivery	£6,995	£6,745
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi SWB, 90BHP	White	Delivery	£10,295	£9,995
08	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTI Sportive	Silver	Delivery	£13,995	£13,495
08	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTI SWB	Ink Blue	Delivery	£11,995	£10,995

*All Commercial Vehicle prices exclude VAT at 15%

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DrivingReview



by STEVE LOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Peugeot 207cc

Peugeot upholds croptop tradition



NEVER mind that some posh German brand sparked the modern trend for folding hardtop convertibles.

Peugeot will tell you it pulled off this technological tour de force 60 years earlier and popularised it this time around with a big-selling range of CC (coupe convertible) models, even if the 1996 Mercedes-Benz SLK roadster opened the way.

Peugeot's first CC was the 206CC (2001-7); it was affordable and chic, but lacked refinement and felt like the sort of ingenious yet fallible back-of-a-Gauloises packet design that once epitomised French engineering.

The Gallic temperament was most obvious when the roof shrugged its shoulders and said 'pah!', just as heavy raindrops began pattering all over the interior.

Fortunately, Peugeot engineers made a further note on the back of the Gauloises pack, to the effect: "Concept + sales 'formidable', but must get roof right."

And they did.

The 207CC successor model is, like the 207 range as a whole, a huge improvement over the 206 version and the roof is a delight requiring nothing more than the press of a button to raise or lower in 25 seconds, even when moving at up to 6mph.

However, nearly 90 per cent of 206CC sales were to women and Peugeot admits its replacement is targeted at ladies too. There is more unisex appeal about the 207CC, but it still makes a Mazda MX-5 look like a snarling beast and a Nissan 370Z appear certifiable.

I drove the 207CC test car top down whilst wearing a false goatee, les RayBans and a beret, responding to questions only with 'comment?'

In this anonymous guise I then felt free to be objective about the 207CC.

Admittedly, it is no sports car in terms of style and the steering delivers nothing like the required feel or satisfaction, but the 207CC can

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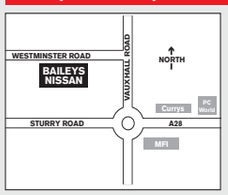
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The Government Scrappage Scheme is available from 18th May 2009 until the Government funding is utilised or until 28/02/2010 (whichever is sooner). The Nissan British Built Trade in Scheme (NBBTS) is available until 30/09/2009. Trade in vehicles under the Government Scheme must have been registered on or before 31/08/99 and under NBBTS between 01/9/99 and 31/08/01. The keeper of a trade in vehicle should have a UK address shown on the V5C and have been the registered keeper of the trade in vehicle for at least 12 calendar months before the order date of the new vehicle. Also a trade in vehicle must have a current MOT certificate at order date of the new vehicle and must be under 3.5 tonnes in weight. Under NBBTS there is no obligation to scrap any trade in vehicle and the new vehicle purchased must be a Nissan UK built vehicle (Micra, Micra C+C, NOTE, QASHQAI and QASHQAI+2 only). Full Terms and Conditions apply (see your local Nissan dealership for details). Schemes available at participating Nissan dealers only. Schemes not available in conjunction with Motability or any other offers. Terms and Conditions subject to change without prior notice. Excludes Channel Islands / Isle of Man. *Finance is available subject to status on eligible new vehicles registered between 1/07/09 and 30/09/09 in the UK to persons aged 18 or over. Guarantees and Indemnities may be required. Further charges may be made subject to mileage and condition if you elect to return the vehicle at the end of the agreement. At participating dealers only. Nissan Finance, a trading style of RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 495, Watford, WD17 1FJ. Information correct at time of going to press. Refer to dealer for exact specification. This advert supersedes any previously advertised offers. Offer shown is not available in conjunction with any other schemes or offers. Model shown is a 3dr Micra Visia 1.2 16v petrol manual with a normal on the road price of £7995 plus optional metallic paint at £395 inc VAT Models subject to availability. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 9YS.





be hustled and grips well.

There is a good spread of engines, though none packs much of a punch, largely due to weight from extra strengthening needed for the croptop format, though Peugeot has done a fine job in making the car feel rigid even in 'top down' mode – just as well, because that is when the car looks its best.

Some buyers may be attracted by its 2+2 layout, though I doubt even kids will ride in the back. A full child seat leaves simply too little leg room and while you could park a kiddie there on a booster, the seat back is too upright to be comfortable for long; should they fall asleep by some miracle, they will loll about horribly as if given an alcopop to cut short any desperate cries of 'are we there yet?"

Realistically, we are looking at shopping bags or luggage occupying the back seats instead, especially when the roof is down and boot access is compromised.

And if that is all you expect from the 207CC then the two-seat Vauxhall Tigra comes into the reckoning too, with better handling and style.

Our 207CC test car was a high spec GT model with the flagship diesel engine too and while this gives the car a lot of low down urge for pulling



out of junctions and making progress on rural roads, it makes the car feel heavy. Having driven petrol models earlier, I reckon they are the better bet here.

I also doubt whether a high specification is worth the money; you get alloys, air con and most other normal 'toys' on the Sport entry trim and trading up makes the 207CC look expensive against obvious rivals such as the Mini Convertible and Mitsubishi's Colt CZC and even roadsters like the MX-5.

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DrivingStats

- Peugeot 207CC GT HDi 110 £19,055
- Range: £16,695-19,655
- Garage stats: 4.03m by 1.75m two-door convertible
- Powertrain: 1,560cc/110bhp four-cylinder diesel engine driving front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 119mph and 0-62mph in 10.9 seconds
- How green?: category-C (£120/year) road tax – 130g/km CO2 emissions
- Official fuel figures: combined 56.4mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): *****
- Fuel tank: 50 litres/10.9gallons
- Insurance group: 9
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles
- Rivals: Citroen C3 Pluriel, Fiat 500C, Mini Cooper Convertible, Mitsubishi Colt CZC and VW Beetle.

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Motability

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings are against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th September 2009. Prices correct at time of press. †£2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded-in against a new vehicle subject to conditions. Offers apply to new vehicles ordered or registered between 07.07.09 and 30.09.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Chev77507)

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AUDI

A4, 2.0 multitronic diesel auto, 2005, blue metallic with grey cloth interior, 121000 miles, £7850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

RS6, CAT D REPAIRED, 2003, grey with black leather, 27000 miles, £13995, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, r auto, 2002, green metallic with green leather, 61000 miles, £34950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 318 ci es coupe, 2005, silver metallic with black cloth, 45800 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 325 ci sport convertible auto, 2002, topaz blue metallic with grey leather sport seats, 93000 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 325 i se manual touring, 2001, crystal green met with green cloth, 122000 miles, £3950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318 ci es, 2005, orient blue metallic with black leather, 22800 miles, £10850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 523ise, 2007, sapphire black metallic with grey cloth interior, 43800 miles, £14950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

X5, 3.0 sport automatic, 2002, topaz blue metallic with black dakota sport leathe, 104365 miles, £9850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

X5, 4.4i v8 auto, 2001, mahogany metallic with mahogany montana leather, 39700 miles, £10850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

X5, 3.0d Sport 5dr Auto, yc04mdf, adjustable steering column/wheel, air con, alloys, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, electrically adjustable seats, headlight washers, immobiliser, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, traction control. insurance group: 17, black, 60000 miles, £17995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

FIAT

PUNTO, 1.2, 2002, burnt orange, 52651 miles, £1995, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 2004, met blue, 50234 miles, £3995, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

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ESCORT, 1998, green, 86786 miles, £995, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate] **SPORTS+TECH PACK**, wm08gyu, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, black, 5607 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style + 3dr [82], nc58fkt, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, central locking. insurance group:4, black, 11031 miles, £11490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8TDCi Zetec Climate, 2007, moondust silver, 13137 miles, £9795, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 LX, 2006, aquarius, 22000 miles, £6995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8TDCi LX, 2006, jeans, 25000 miles, £8295, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Titanium, 2008, ocean blue, 6000 miles, £12995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCi Zetec S 3dr***SPORT PACK BLUETOOTH***, ej58fjn, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control. black, 8500 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Edge 3dr*******LOW MILEAGE********, gd04wgw,adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloys, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights,immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, metallic paintwork. insurance group:6, grey, 34341 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

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(55) Kia Picanto 1.1 LX, 5 Dr, Red, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/Windows, ABS, CD Player, 1 Owner, ONLY 6000 MILES, S/History, Ins.Grp 3, RFL £120 p.a **£4695**

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When the going gets tough

By **ALEX HOAD**
alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

JOBS may be going, investment may be dropping and purse strings may be tightening across the globe, but despite the recession it appears there is no better time to start a business.

The South East arm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales said budding businesses should not be put off by the credit crunch.

And Business Link in Kent has said there is the chance for new start-ups to thrive despite the economic climate.

The ICA says there are seven ways of using the economic slowdown to a firm's advantage and points to Disney, Hewlett-Packard and Microsoft as examples of firms which took the plunge during a downturn.

South East regional director, Fay Webster, said: "It can be hard to believe, but periods of recession can be one of the best times to start a small business.

"Some of the reasons for that may be out of necessity. If you have been made redundant, you may have no choice but to go out on your own.

"You could have an idea for a small business for a long time, but now that you are out of work, you actually have time to work on the concept. Established businesses may also see opportunities for expansion into new areas."



SHAKE ON IT: This could be just the right time to unleash that long-held business ambition

Among the list of the ICA's pros for starting a new enterprise now are:

• Customers appreciate good value more and good customer service means they will remember you afterwards.

• Competitors may be weaker and some may even go out of business, leaving a gap in the market.

• Quality talent is more available due to redundancies and failing businesses. While employing staff may be daunting, you could get someone who knows about the market you are aiming for.

• Prices often drop during a recession. Office and shop space is cheaper, and reduced components and office supplies should be available. Out-of-work people may be prepared to work on a sub-contract basis, thereby reducing fixed costs.

• Recessions can help toughen up new businesses. Keeping costs at a minimum during a downturn can lead to more success when the economy improves.

Richard Green, adviser manager at Business Link in Kent, said: "It is possible for start-up companies to thrive during a recession. Business Link has seen an increase of more than a third in the number of attendees at its comprehensive start-up training workshop programme this year.

"A recession is often a good time to start a business. There is still a healthy demand for many products and services and starting now means that the business will grow steadily and is less likely to face the risks associated with growing too fast, such as running out of cash and credit."

Mr Green said more than a third of businesses which attend its workshops have reported that business is "thriving" and that "they are working flat-out".

Signs of slowly building towards homes recovery

HOUSE-building has reached its highest level in almost a year.

There were 4,136 applications in the South East in the second quarter of 2009 – only nine per cent lower than in the same period a year ago.

Figures from the National House Building Council (NHBC) showed the region boasted the third-best figures from the 10 regions.

Overall, 8,305 applications were received in June from builders starting new homes in the combined private and public sectors. The number was the highest since July last year, when 9,530 applications were received.

The NHBC figures revealed the fourth successive rolling quarter-on-quarter rise, with more than 21,500 new applications during Quarter 2, a 12 per cent increase on the figures for the previous rolling quarter, March to May.

Imtiaz Farookhi, NHBC chief executive, said: "Our figures show a significant improvement on the all-time low of December 2008 (4,259), as there has been a steady increase of applications in the first half of the year.

"While this is encouraging in the short term, it's important to point out that house-building output is still greatly reduced compared with previous years.

"There needs to be a recovery in demand before house-builders can increase the number of applications to build new homes to the levels that the Government's targets demand.

"Improving liquidity in the mortgage market and the relaxation of strict lending terms now applied to many would-be buyers are key steps to attracting buyers back in to the market and ensuring a sustainable recovery."



Eco-friendly firm relieved as Burdens takes over

THE founder of an environmentally friendly builders merchant based in Kent has insisted the firm is in good hands after it was taken over by a civil engineering giant, *writes Gareth Dorrian*.

Joe Wild was chairman of Ecomerchant, based in Goodnestone, near Faversham, until two months ago when it was taken over by Burdens Ltd.

It bought Ecomerchant's website, brand name and intellectual property rights and allowed Mr Wild to carry on running the site.

Ecomerchant was wound up voluntarily in mid-April.

He said: "It was disastrous for me when the company I set up and ran for 11 years went into liquidation.

"The recession has obviously hit the building industry very hard, which in turn has had a massive impact on builders merchants.

"But Burdens is the perfect nationwide company to help me achieve what I've always wanted to do – supply sustainable building materials at affordable prices."

Mr Wild said Ecomerchant products would now be available at branches of Burdens all over Britain, which is a more efficient way of getting materials to customers, he said.

"I'm excited by the changes that have taken place," he said. "This is the way forward. We feel everybody should be using our kinds of products as building materials."

Healthier

Ecomerchant was set up 11 years ago and promotes the development of energy efficient and "healthier" buildings through the use of natural and breatheable materials.

A mission statement on its website says: "This is why we link traditional building products such as lime mortars with contemporary energy efficient windows and locally reclaimed bricks."

Burdens' corporate development director Kevin Hancock said: "Ecomerchant will add considerable value to our current offering to the sustainable sector.

"It will strengthen our overall position by complementing our environmental division, bringing greater focus to house-building, self-build, refurbishment and general construction. This development now places us as the leading UK supplier for green materials across all construction projects."

Kevin Furey, Kent's deputy director of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, described the liquidation of Ecomerchant as "very sad".

He added: "They've been going for so long and have been doing something so original, getting sustainable building materials into the marketplace. I only hope the takeover will be great for them and the name grows stronger.

"The building industry is such an aggressive area and I hope they do well."

Mandelson gets dossier of red tape 'evidence'



PILED HIGH: The IoD has asked Lord Mandelson's Better Regulation team to cut back on what some bosses regard as damaging and unnecessary red tape

By **ALEX HOAD**
alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT businesses angry at being "wrapped up in red tape" have made their views know to the Government.

The Kent branch of the Institute of Directors helped compile a national dossier of evidence which was handed to Lord Mandelson and his Better Regulation team.

The dossier contained more than 250 examples of IoD members showing their business was being damaged by regulations and put forward a number of proposals to ease the burden on firms.

Among the areas of concern were maternity and paternity rights for employees, which are seen as too generous to the new parents and disruptive to firms.

Other points include claims that money laundering regulations generate unnecessary admin and the burden of work involved in proving identity outweighs the risks involved, plus grumbles about "inconsistent" health and safety regulations. One of the biggest concerns was the employment tribunal system, which is seen as weighted in favour of the employee by bosses.

An IoD spokesman said: "Members feel ex-employees have little to lose by 'having a go', even when the case is very weak. Many employers are reluctantly settling such cases pre-tribunal in order to avoid the costs and time the system entails."

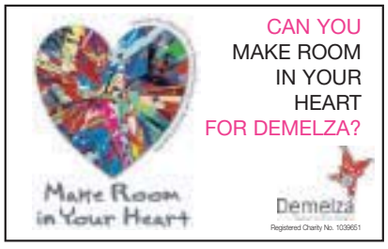
Frazer Thompson, chairman of IoD Kent, said: "The IoD has fought long and hard to reduce red tape. Winning the battle is more important then ever given the pressure firms are now under simply to survive.

"Regulations that ensure good business practice are to be welcomed, but many are simply choking the life out of businesses to the advantage of overseas competitors.

"Our submission articulates in credible, detailed terms many of the specific issues, their costs and solutions. With 270 case studies, no more excuses can be made about an absence of detail or business involvement in the Better Regulation agenda.

"By the Government's own standards, we will be expecting action within 90 days."

The dossier was compiled in response to claims the business community had not done enough to suggest regulatory improvements.



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Do we really need another bank holiday?

FANCY an extra day off each year? Work and pensions secretary Yvette Cooper this week became the latest politician to advocate adding to our eight annual bank holidays. Her idea is a day to commemorate deaths in the workplace – which is marked in other countries on April 28. Even if her suggestion wins support, nine days will still lag behind the 11 in the US and 13 in France. But the Government may bow to pressure from business leaders who say it will have a negative impact on the economy. Here, three members of Kent's business community give their views on the idea of an extra bank holiday



RELAX: What would you do with an extra day's holiday a year?



A FURTHER opportunity enabling visitors to explore the county and its many attractions would be very welcome, according to FRAN WARRINGTON, head of Visit Kent at Kent County Council.

She said: "For our many tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses which entertain more than 45 million visitors each year another bank holiday would be a welcome addition to the calendar. Tourism contributes more than £2.5 billion to the Kent economy and supports 50,600 jobs.

"Another free day when visitors to Kent, particularly from London, and residents can get out and about to discover our castles, gardens, beaches and countryside and enjoy a meal in one of our many restaurants or gastropubs would surely be a good thing."



FRAZER THOMPSON, chairman of the Institute of Directors (IoD) in Kent, said: "Britain is lagging behind our continental neighbours when it comes to the number of bank holidays we have, so yes, I am in favour of having another.

"Ideally we would have a bank holiday in the autumn, to break up the long haul between the August bank holiday and Christmas, so I would propose Armistice Day, November 11, as suitable.

"In light of the fact that we are losing soldiers' lives in Afghanistan and have recently seen the deaths of war veterans Harry Patch and Henry Allingham, this would be a fitting date to unite all the nations of the UK."



IN THIS economic climate Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce would oppose another bank holiday.

Chief executive TRACEY MANLEY said: "Industry has enough to contend with, let alone another day when business could be hampered or not happen at all. This would cost UK business millions in lost production and covering salaries.

"Many UK companies have their financial year end on March 31, so another bank holiday in April, and including the Easter break, would invariably slow down production as employees will try to book holidays around it.

"Would it not make sense to have it when businesses historically close down – from the December 27 to January 2 – and not forever trying to replicate what they have in Europe?"



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TRISH FRASER

Nothing to lose and plenty to gain from happy staff

NEW research says involving employees in the future direction of organisations can give firms a boost when it comes to new opportunities and innovation.

An independent report from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills – Engaging for Success: enhancing performance through employee engagement – found staff involvement could improve competitiveness and performance.

Trish Fraser, head of Quality South East, the Investors in People centre for the region, said: "We have been encouraging employers to involve staff in the running of the business for a long time, so it's great to have confirmation that it can have such positive effects, not only on the organisation itself but on the economy as a whole.

"IoP enables everyone within an organisation to comment on how it is being run. Allowing them to share their opinions and feel valued can be a real boost and often it is employees on the ground who come up with the best ideas. Innovation, particularly during a downturn, can be extremely important to remain profitable and if engaging staff in the business can lead to a more innovative environment, what have bosses got to lose?

"It is more about culture change rather than any significant financial investment, so it makes sense to do it."

Studies included in the review found positive links between employee engagement and staff retention, performance measures, profit, productivity and customer service.

Mrs Fraser said: "Although jobs are in short supply and many people are just happy to be employed, it is not a time to take your staff for granted.

"Happy staff will be prepared to work harder to get through the tough times and will still be there when the upturn comes."

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Caution is part of the post-crunch furniture

AN OFFICE refurbishment specialist has given an intriguing glimpse into how the recession has impacted on the workplace, ***writes KOS Media business editor, Alex Hoad***.


Julie Anderson

RAP Office Contracts, based in Maidstone, has enjoyed steady growth since it was formed by husband-and-wife team Richard and Julie Anderson in 1998.

An initial four staff grew to 13 at the start of this year when three new employees were taken on and while ceilings and partitions were the mainstay at the beginning, the firm now increasingly provides whole office fit-ups.

Turnover also rose to £2.4 million last year and Mrs Anderson said it has generally risen by 20 per cent each year.

However, like most firms across the county the credit crunch has bitten – even if it did take a little longer to sink its teeth into RAP. Mrs Anderson said: "We didn't really notice anything until about four months ago. We had a load of contracts that had been running for a while and we were thinking 'What credit crunch?' but didn't want to say anything. Then it suddenly hit us."

She revealed the result had been that: "We have had lots more quotes for work, we are inundated with quotes, but it takes much longer to get a decision.

"I think companies are going to more and more people for quotes to try to get the cheapest they can find.

"Everyone is trying to screw us down on price. It is increasingly common. We have seen much more of it now than we ever have before."

She revealed the demand for estimates was so high that the firm has enough work for another two estimators – although she stressed they would wait before employing new staff as the extra quotes may dry up as the market recovers, adding: "People are at panic settings at the moment so we'll wait and see what happens."

'Credit crunch or not, if a firm needs some work doing, it needs some work doing'

She also revealed: "We like to plan ahead and know that we'll be starting work the following week or whatever, but people have been deferring decisions and delaying for weeks or saying, 'We'll come back to you in a month'."

Mrs Anderson said the business had been kept 'ticking along' by a group of about 10 customers who have supplied RAP with regular work.

She said she had noticed a shift since the recession began, and: "We have heard of some of the larger companies doing work for turnover only, not to make any profit.

"You just can't compete with that. It's crazy, but the credit crunch is making people do things like that."

One thing RAP is having to contend with is the growing number of start-up firms, often formed by people who lost their jobs during the downturn. She said: "We sometimes lose out to one-man-bands which can be frustrating because the thing is, they haven't got the credit history of an established firm.

"I think the customers are at risk of being asked for money half way through a job when the person they have employed has been refused more credit to complete the work."

She added: "We have reduced our prices to be competitive, but you can only do it as much as suppliers will allow us. We have to drive them down, too, to be able to reduce ours."

Mrs Anderson said the indications were that the outlook was starting to look rosier: "I think the market is picking up, but until the time when there is plenty of work for everyone, I don't think people will start to put their prices back up and get back to normal.

"We have a lot of projects where we are getting warmer on discussions. We aren't getting deferred for as long. We still can't plan ahead as we would like, but it is getting better."

In the meantime: "There are still successful companies moving from office to office, which means there is still work for us.

"One of the other things we have seen since the credit crunch is companies wanting us to divide a large office space into two so they can sublet some of their space to bring some money in."

She added: "Whether there is a credit crunch or not, if a company needs some work doing, they need some work doing.

"People are being sensible and realising they have to keep going as normal, not just sitting on their money and waiting for the credit crunch to be over."

Of the annual rise of 20 per cent in RAP's turnover, Mrs Anderson said: "I'd take that now for next year, I can tell you."


COMFORT ZONE: A Maidstone-based office refurbishment business has given an insight into the impact of the downturn



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Movers & Shakers

MARTIN White has become Clydesdale Bank's first dedicated agricultural business partner for Kent.

Based at the Maidstone Financial Solutions Centre, Mr White – who has nearly 30 years' banking experience – will have responsibility for working alongside the county's farming community, helping agricultural businesses to strengthen and diversify.

He said: "Kent, as the Garden of England, is synonymous with a strong rural economy and it's my job to work with many longstanding agricultural businesses, as well as a growing number of people who have invested in farms and farmland but who may not want to manage them."


MARTIN WHITE

"As an agribusiness partner my objective is to add value to the business and provide more than just a banking solution."

Paul Saunders, managing partner at Clydesdale Bank in Maidstone, said: "Although we already work with many local agricultural businesses we have seen a growing interest in recent months among these businesses for financial support and services, which is why we have appointed Martin to take the lead on our behalf."

HSBC Commercial Banking has appointed Yvonne Bear to the role of regional commercial director for the South of England. Yvonne, pictured below, will lead the 337-strong Southern Commercial Banking team covering Kent, Oxon, Surrey, Sussex and south and west London.

Within her new role, the married mum-of-two, who lives in north Kent, will help businesses through challenging times and enable SMEs to have access to expert financial solutions and advice.



She was formerly regional commercial director for central London and has been with the company for more than 20 years, working in IT, marketing and product management.

Stephen Price, HSBC's head of commercial segments, said: "I am delighted to announce Yvonne's appointment to this senior management role."

Yvonne said: "These are challenging times and I'm committed to working with my experienced and professional team to help SMEs in the region to grow and strengthen their businesses."



A BEAUTY consultant from Kent has won a top national accolade from one of the world's leading beauty houses.

Becky Bricknell (pictured above) who works at John Lewis in Bluewater received Guerlain's Prix d'Or which recognises excellence in performance and commitment to customer service.

After months of assessment and 'mystery shopper' visits, Becky was chosen as one of seven finalists before being unveiled as the third winner of the annual award.

She received a specially commissioned brooch and loyalty rewards to mark the achievement.

Richard Hawkins, Guerlain's director of education and development, said: "Following almost five years of loyal service, Becky has become a shining example of excellent customer service within Guerlain and the beauty industry as a whole."

LAW firm Buss Murton Law has strengthened its company and commercial team with the appointment of senior associate Brendan Roodt.

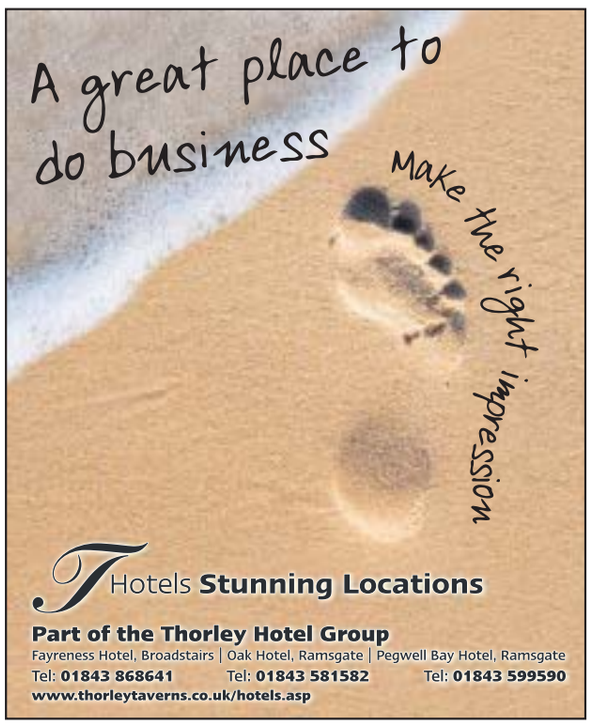
The South African qualified lawyer joined the Tunbridge Wells-based firm this month from Kings Hill-based Vertex Law, having previously worked for City law firm Lawrence Graham.

He also established and managed his own corporate legal practice in South Africa for nine years before moving to the UK.

Mr Roodt is experienced in dealing with start-up businesses, entrepreneurs and SME's and advising on corporate law.

He said: "The firm is undergoing a period of dramatic change and I am delighted to be part of its exciting future."

Alan Williams, senior partner at Buss Murton Law, said: "We all look forward to the contribution Brendan will make to the team and the firm."



A ray of sunshine in June



By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

THE release of retail sales figures recently showed an unexpected rise of 1.2 per cent in June and some chose to see this as a sign of early optimism.

The rate of decline in some sectors also slowed, with business services and finance shrinking 0.7 per cent in Q2 against a decline of 2.5 per cent in Q1. However, other indicators were more depressing.

Britain's GDP fell 0.8 per cent in Q2, which is an improvement on the 2.4 per cent contraction experienced in the first quarter, but almost triple the 0.3 per cent consensus forecast for Q2 that had been expected.

Our national debt is now 56.6 per cent of GDP and Mervyn King, the governor of the Bank of England, again warned politicians about their responsibility to deal with the growing mountain of debt. If this is not addressed, the IMF's predictions of Britain breaching 100 per cent debt to GDP ratio over the next five years may prove correct, risking our Sovereign AAA rating.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown only has a mandate until June 2010 and even if he admits he needs to make cuts, his ability to see them through is unlikely.

Many commentators are, however, calling this the bottom of the market. They believe the improvement in credit markets, recapitalisation of the banks and recovery in emerging markets indicate the stock markets have already priced in the worst and there is money to be made in a rising market in the next few years.

In particular manufacturing in China is growing again, and this is seen as an important factor in global recovery.

Evidence that retail investors and their advisers agree with this sentiment regarding the beginning of asset recovery can be seen.

Although the main area of investment remains the relatively safe corporate bond environment, the amount of new investment flowing to equity funds is increasing, and particularly to Asia and North America as they are perceived to offer early benefits in a recovery.



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MALE AGED 25		FEMALE AGED 25	
LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.55	LEGAL & GEN (ELEC)	£6.05
AVIVA	£7.82	LV=	£6.34
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£8.05	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£6.49
AXA	£8.31	AVIVA (SIMPLIFIED)	£6.76
SCOT PROVIDENT	£8.35	SCOT PROVIDENT	£7.07
LV=	£8.54	AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£7.10
MALE AGED 40		**FEMALE AGED 40**	
ZURICH	£17.50	ZURICH	£14.20
AVIVA (SIMPLIFIED)	£17.68	AVIVA (SIMPLIFIED)	£14.21
BRIGHT GREY	£17.80	LV=	£14.23
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£17.93	FRIENDS PROV	£14.40
AVIVA	£18.05	BRIGHT GREY	£14.58
AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£18.11	LEGAL & GENERAL	£14.60

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You and your bright ideas

QUITE often the future of a business, its employees and customers can rest on something invisible – an idea cooked-up by the old grey matter. Whether you are in the company green room for a brainstorming session or sitting down with friends in the pub, an idea can strike at any time.

But what should you do with those ideas? Blurt them out to anyone who'll listen in a bid to impress? Or post something on the internet asking if anyone has heard of the same idea before?

Lawrence Smith-Higgins, head of business outreach and education at the Intellectual Property Office would advise otherwise.

He told Kent on Sunday: "The first thing to do is not to tell too many people. The more people who know, the more difficult is could be to prove it was you who came up with the idea.

"Do some research to find out whether anyone else has already come up with the same idea. A search engine search is a good place to start.

"If you want advice but don't want to pay for it, then you can come to the IPO or go to something like Business Link, which should have plenty of information. Try the FAQ section of the websites first.

"There are also specialist business and intellectual property (IP) lawyers who will be able to assist you, if you are prepared to pay."

Protection

Depending on what your idea is, you could find yourself looking for a patent, a copyright, a design mark, a trade mark or even all four.

Patents protect the features and processes that make things work, which allows inventors to profit from their inventions.

Copyright protects a variety of types of work, from music and lyrics to photographs and knitting patterns. Design is all about the way an object looks: its shape, its visual appeal. If it's unique, get a design mark.

Trademarks are symbols like logos and brand names that distinguish goods and services in the marketplace. It may be that an idea has all four – Apple's iPod for example needed to protect all it's facets, meaning that if you or I wanted to create something similar, we would be in legal hot water immediately.

In the first instance it can cost as little as £200 to get a trademark. However this only applies in the UK and you'll have to pay more for continental or global rights. Here, Mr Smith-Higgins runs through the IPO's top tips for dealing with the fruits of your brain's labours.

• **Realise the benefits**. Protecting intellectual property isn't just about making sure no one copies your idea. If you're running a business, it should be an integral part of your overall strategy, helping it to grow and develop.

If you're just starting out, investing in intellectual property will not only secure your business at the start-up phase, but will also add value and help it on the path to success.



• **Know your IP**. Does your invention need patent protection? Do you need to protect your name, brand or logo? Is the look or appearance of your product in need of protection? Have you considered copyright? Or could you need all four? It is essential to know your intellectual property, and make sure you make the right decision to protect your idea.

• **Research**. Check your idea is as unique as you think it is. An internet search should be the first step. Make sure the product doesn't already exist and check out the competition. You can also carry out a free online search of records at the Intellectual Property Office.

• **Plan ahead**. If you have a lot of business assets, you will need to take time to put together a concise plan of how and when you are going to look after your ideas and make sure your IP is protected. Think of it as a natural and essential extension of your business plan.

• **Get free expert advice**. Enlist the help of the IPO at every stage of the process, right from starting out. We can guide you through the process and put you in touch with other experts and legal professionals who can ensure every base is covered.

• **Invest**. Once you have enlisted the help of the experts and identified the right elements of intellectual property for you or your business, it is important to go ahead and get the protection process started as soon as possible.

A trade mark application can be approved in a matter of months, however patent registration in particular takes longer to complete. The sooner you start the process, the sooner you will see the benefits.

• **Use IP healthcheck tool**. This is free for use online at www.ipo.gov.uk/iphealthcheck. It has been designed to help businesses find out how to protect and exploit their intellectual assets.

This tool bridges the gap between creating your product or service and going ahead with the actual process of protecting your idea.

Through the website, you can identify what you need to do and why, as well as having the different types of intellectual property fully explained. Don't wait for a potential problem, secure your IP as soon as you can. Once it is out in the public domain, it may be too late.

• **IP awareness seminars**. Take advantage of the IPO's awareness seminars, which are free and held across the UK. Not only are they aimed at businesses which want to find out more about the benefits of using IP, but it's also worth listening to other businesses which have successfully used IP.

• **IP isn't just for big business**. Intellectual property is not the exclusive domain of large corporations. Smaller businesses, if well informed, can gain a great deal. One manufacturer based in the UK was looking to improve its products and began research. They identified the technology they were looking for in existing patents and secured an exclusive five-year European licence for the technology. They now have what they believe will be a privileged position for the foreseeable future.

Conversely, failure to recognise IP can prove costly. The owner of a small restaurant in London estimated she lost a quarter of her business when someone else opened a restaurant nearby and used her unregistered trade mark.

• **Every business has some form of IP**. The importance of intellectual property is increasing. An effective IP strategy can protect market position, give competitive advantage and may provide the incentive investors are looking for.

• ***For advice and guidance on all types of intellectual property call 0845 9 500 505 or visit www.ipo.gov.uk.***

A free online healthcheck to help businesses determine what IP they have and how to protect it is available at www.ipo.gov.uk/iphealthcheck.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

PRINCIPALITY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.9% **L:** 75% **U:** 30/09/2012
OD: £1,339

MORTGAGE BOX - ITL
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2011
OD: £1,184

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/10/2011
OD: £1,329

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.18% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/10/2011
OD: £1,030

OTHER

NATIONWIDE
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.38% **L:** 75% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,015

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,030

MARSDEN
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.09% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/07/2011
OD: £1,298

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.09% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £1,305

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CASE STUDY – SCENTS OF TIME

Into the Dragons' Den with 'Indiana Pybus'


DAVE PYBUS

DAVE PYBUS is a Hythe-based alchemist and self-styled aromancer – a dealer in aromas – who has travelled the world unearthing long-forgotten fragrances, earning him the nickname the Indiana Jones of perfumery.

In March 2007 he appeared on BBC TV's Dragons' Den, seeking backing for his Scents of Time project, a bid to revive more than a dozen long-lost fragrances.

Mr Pybus eventually received £80,000 in exchange for 40 per cent of his business from Dragons Theo Paphitis and Peter Jones – a deal still in place to this day.

Mr Pybus said: "I filled in a form on the Dragons' Den website and got a call from the producers. We decided it was just a concept at that stage, but I was eventually asked to do a pitch to BBC staff.

"I appeared infront of the Dragons two weeks later and in the period between filming and the show being broadcast I set up all the necessary copyrights.

"I copyrighted the name Scents of Time and the fragrance which is loosely based on one recovered from the Titanic. I went on to the website, worked out which classification I needed and had to pay £200 to copyright the name.

"The copyright only stands in your classification, so if someone wanted to come along and develop some agricultural machinery with the same name, for example, they would be able to.

"Your copyrighted name is publicised in specialist magazines for three months. It gives patent lawyers and the like the chance to say 'No, we use that name,' or 'That's too similar to a name we use.'

"If there are no objections, they give you the trade mark. I also copyrighted the design of the petals which accompany the fragrance. You get the UK trade mark for 10 years and after that time get first bite at renewing it."

Mr Pybus said he would recommend following the Dragons' Den route to anyone, but warned those who appear on the show to ensure their ideas are protected before the broadcast.



Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909

100 YEARS AGO: KENT moved joint-top of the County Championship table with an emphatic victory over Surrey in the traditional derby game at Rectory Field in Blackheath.

Surrey made 244, but Kent raced past and declared on 483 for 9, thanks to centuries from Frank Woolley and AP Day, before skittling Surrey for 177 in their second innings to win by an innings and 62 runs. Fielder and Blythe both took five wickets.

The Kent correspondent was 'amused' by a report from his Surrey counterpart, which blamed the defeat on the absences of Hayward, Hobbs and Crawford.

Blythe then headed up to Old Trafford on England duty, but despite taking seven Australian wickets the Test ended in a tame draw.

It was reported "on good authority" that Maidstone would have a festival in 1910 after the pitch at The Mote was successfully relaid.

1959

50 YEARS AGO: THE Worcestershire bowler John Aldridge was criticised for taking three-and-a-half minutes to bowl an over at The Mote.

This was considered a virtually catatonic over rate at the time, though it didn't do Worcestershire or Aldridge a lot of good.

The bowler failed to take a wicket in either innings and Kent won by five wickets – Dave Halfyard taking 9 for 61 in the second innings and 15 wickets in the match.

Two Worcestershire players made a fashion statement by wearing straw hats, but these were subsequently blamed when the duo in question botched a run-out and one of the biggest cheers of the game came when the umpire successfully chased one of the hats after it blew away.

Ramsgate signed Norman Lloyd from Sittingbourne and Irish forward Francie Callan from Doncaster Rovers, while Sir Roger Manwood's School, Sandwich, beat Sutton Valence and King's Rochester to the Kent Schools Golf title.

1984

25 YEARS AGO: THE BBC cameras were present at Taunton as Kent beat Somerset by 10 runs in the quarter-finals of the Nat West Trophy, setting up a daunting trip to Edgbaston for a semi-final with Warwickshire.



A crowd of more than 8,000 watched a man-of-the-match display by Chris Tavare, whose 103 helped Kent post 275.

Peter Roebuck scored 81 in Somerset's reply, but the Gavaskar-like speed of his innings saw the home side fall well behind the asking rate, though a late charge by Vic Marks and Brian Rose almost thwarted the visitors.

Gillingham manager Keith Peacock (pictured) was considering an improved offer for Plymouth's Andy Taylor after having an initial bid turned down, while Dartford lost the services of the man who skippered them to the Southern League Premier Division title, Bobby Arber, who joined Woodford Town.



From pub to club

Idea to start Gills first brewed over a pint

Going over old ground

By FRED ATKINS

WHEN the term 'pub player' is used in its modern sense it is almost always (1) meant to be pejorative or (2) referring to Phil Neville.

Yet without the Great British alehouse the pattern of sporting history would have been very different, certainly in the case of Gillingham FC, who were formed on May 18, 1893, at The Napier Arms in Britton Street.

The idea was to build on the success of a local side, Excelsior, and form a club that could compete at a higher level, with a share capital of £1,500.

The new club, New Brompton FC, lacked an adequate ground, so a new one was built at Priestfield Road, where they've been ever since, with the exception of an FA Cup tie in 1899/1900, when they were forced to play at Woolwich Arsenal's ground in Plumstead as punishment for crowd trouble against Millwall.



PUB SIDE: The Napier Arms, where Gillingham FC were first formed, and the club's current home, Priestfield Stadium

New Brompton FC's first game was a 5-1 defeat to Arsenal's reserves, on September 2, 1893, but they improved steadily, eventually superceding Chatham Town as the top team in the Medway towns and going on to enjoy an almost unbroken run as the top-ranked side in Kent.

The Napier was almost the venue for another monumental event in the club's history on Thursday, July 17, 1913.

The directors called an Extraordinary General Meeting with a special resolution "that the name of the company be changed from the New Brompton Football Club Company Limited to the Gillingham Football Club Company Limited."

The upshot was that the word Gillingham became known around the country and the world, far better known than the term 'Medway', virtually unheard of outside Kent, or New Brompton, which even people inside the county would struggle to find on a map.

What's unusual about Gillingham's birthplace is that unlike many sporting heritage sites in the county, the Napier Arms is still there and apparently thriving.

According to the British Beer & Pub Association, 36 pubs a week closed in the United Kingdom during the first half of 2008.

The Napier, however, is still very much open. You can buy a pint there at the civilised hour of 10am on a Sunday and it proudly displays its history on the walls.

Yet the pub isn't the Mecca it might be for Gills fans. It's only a mile away from Priestfield, but the number of other, nearer, drinking establishments means it's not the most obvious choice for a matchday pint.

"We don't really get anybody making a pilgramage here because we're quite out of the way," Sharon Paterson, one of the present tenants, admitted. "We're not really that near the football club, but people are welcome to come by – we've got the plaques on the wall and anyone's welcome to drop in and see them."

The full story can be found in the book entitled Home of the Shouting Men, by Andy Bradley and Roger Triggs.

Slade Green demise sparks fears for league's future

RUMOURS the Kent League will lose its status in the football pyramid due to a lack of teams is just "scaremongering", according to league chairman Denise Richmond.

The league's top flight was hit by the withdrawal of Slade Green this week less than a fortnight before the start of the season.

The Erith-based club quit the league after 39 seasons due to a combination of financial and time pressures on the committee.

With VCD Athletic promoted to the Ryman North and Croydon switching to the Combined Counties League, the Kent League's Premier Division is down to just 15 teams.

It is the smallest number since the division's inaugural season in 1966-67 and means clubs will play just 28 games next season, but Richmond insists it is viable. She said: "The Football Association are fully aware what's happened.

"There seem to be some rumours that if we got below a certain number of teams we would lose our step five status. There's nothing in the rules which state that – it's just scaremongering."

The league will host an Extraordinary General Meeting at Lordswood on Wednesday to discuss admitting Corinthian.

The club, from Fawkham, withdrew from the Kent League in 1998 but are seeking readmission to replace the departing Welling United reserves in Division Two.

If the rest of the Kent League clubs vote in favour at the EGM, Corinthian would take their place this season.

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More respectable?

A year after the Football Association launched its much-vaunted Respect campaign, FRED ATKINS asks if behaviour has improved

REFEREEING has supposedly been on the brink for so long that the continued existence of the men in black seems like a feat of survival greater than Cliff Richard's career.

Type the words 'refereeing crisis' into Google and you get more than half a million different versions of essentially the same story – referees quitting in droves because of abuse from parents/players/fans/Jose Mourinho and all of the above ad nauseam.

When the FA launched its Respect agenda a year ago, it was easy to be sceptical. Paul Ince called it a waste of time and its advocacy by Sir Alex Ferguson prompted an incredulous response from Rafael Benitez: "How can you talk about the Respect campaign and criticise the referee every single week?"

Yet a year on from the campaign's launch there are signs that Respect is having a positive affect.

Strategy

The seriousness with which the KCFA was already taking the issue could be gauged by the appointment of John Newson as its first-ever full-time Referees Development Officer.

He believes there are grounds for cautious optimism.

"Cautions are down nationally and in Kent they were down by more than the national average," he said. "More importantly, there has been a reduction in the number of violent offences, which is what we were after."

Part of this is down to a shift in strategy from the officials.

As recently as the 2000-2001 season, a Kent League game was abandoned when Canterbury City had four players sent off as a direct result of a zero-tolerance approach to bad language.

The policy was unworkable. Banning swearing in the Kent League was a bit like trying to outlaw speeding at Brands.



SENT OFF: Kent refereee Steve Bennett is confronted by Liverpool's Javier Mascherano after he gave the Argentinian player a red card against Manchester United last season

It also implied officials should treat the random use of an f-word with equal or greater seriousness than a leg-breaking tackle.

Referees are now encouraged to man-manage situations rather than throwing cards around, though in the heat of the action the Respect agenda can still fly out of the window.

Simon Haydon, a Wateringbury referee who runs the website www.fatref.com, says the changes were more noticeable off the field than on it.

"Once we were out on the pitch all the bad habits reappeared," he said. "The frequency with which I was told to **** off didn't alter and dissent was my most common yellow card.

"I'd say to the captains 'I'm relying on you to help me out as part of the Respect agenda'. One of them said 'I'm the one you should be worrying about, ref, not my players'.

"So player behaviour didn't show any major sign of improvement, although there was marked improvement in the behaviour of players and officials, who became more positive and helpful."

Newson believes it's unrealistic to expect a culture of dissent to evaporate overnight.

"We're still getting misconduct cases, but we always will," Newson said. "Football's a physical game and you'll always get the odd player who thinks he's a good ref."

Swallowing injustice remains one of the most difficult things to do on a football field, yet when Chelsea were knocked out of the Champions League after a string of errors by Tom Henning Ovrebo, even Didier Drogba seemed contrite about his initial outburst, recognising the elimination was down to human error and his side's failure to kill off Barcelona rather than any conspiracy.

Newson believes this year will be crucial if the momentum is to be maintained. "I think this season is going to be the big test," he said.

"Referee numbers are up, but the numbers that want to come back in are not massive.

"I know of 10 referees who want to come back to the game – though whether that's because they're bored with the gardening or have seen the campaign I don't know, but we're seeing fewer of the serious incidents."

• Anyone wanting to become a referee can contact John Newson at john.newson@kcfa.com – courses are being held in September and everyone is welcome.



Reeves hails new passenger

KENT sidecar ace Tim Reeves will be among the favourites for the Isle of Man TT next year after the addition of passenger Daniel Sayle to his team.

Sayle, a four-time winner who was again victorious in this year's TT alongside Dave Molyneux, is one of the most experienced and successful passengers in the sport.

He had initially retired from sidecar racing in June, but an offer to race with three-time world champion Reeves proved too good to turn down.

The Wateringbury-based rider, who is in contention for a fourth world title this season, is already looking forward to next year.

He said: "I'm delighted to welcome Dan into the team for 2010 and I'm already really excited about our prospects.

"His record proves that he's one of, if not the, best in the business and it gives us a great chance of success next year."



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

NEW SIGNINGS: Fleet boss Liam Daish

Daish shopping around in bid to revitalise Fleet

WITH the majority of last season's squad leaving in a summer of upheaval at Ebbsfleet United, manager Liam Daish has used as many as 85 trialists as he seeks to rebuild the north Kent club.

Financial difficulties have plagued the Fleet this summer, forcing Daish to release the majority of his FA Trophy-winning side of 2008.

But with the sale of striker Michael Gash to York City for £55,000, Daish has managed to bring in Ricky Shakes, Gavin Heeroo, Jordan Collins, Jamie Forshaw, James Lindie, Dean Pooley and Ishmael Welsh this week and is slowly putting together a new squad of hungry youngsters and journeymen.

The financial problems began after only 10,000 of the club's 32,000 website owners decided to renew their £35 subscriptions, leaving the club short on funds. At one point Daish's playing budget was restricted to £4,000 per week, which is believed to be one of the lowest in the league.

Difficult

At the start of pre-season the club had just five players on contract, which prompted a widespread search for players. Having cast his eye over 85 potential new players this summer, Daish is happy with his new crop ahead of Saturday's opening league game at Altrincham.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I am sure people thought it would be difficult, but we have put a lot of hard work in pre-season bringing players to the club and looking at them. We have gone through a lot of trialists – some of them I could make up my mind about in five minutes – but we have a nucleus of players now and hopefully we can put some more on contract.

"The lads we have got have played the game and have a decent pedigree. They are all here to play football and not here for money reasons – if they were they would have been long gone."

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Pictures: ADY KERRY

Kent chairman on the fight to keep van Jaarsveld



STAR PLAYER: Kent are desperate to retain the services of batsman Martin van Jaarsveld

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT chairman George Kennedy says the club would be "bitterly disappointed" if star batsman Martin van Jaarsveld decided his future was away from Canterbury.

The popular South African batsman is out of contract at the end of the season and has been free to talk to other counties.

Lancashire, Yorkshire and Surrey are believed to be in hot pursuit of the 35-year-old's signature and, while it was originally thought the Kolpak player might be interested in a move up north, Kent on Sunday understands van Jaarsveld could still remain at St Lawrence.

Kennedy told KoS that he was hoping the PCA Player of the Year for 2008 would make his decision this weekend.

"I am genuinely hoping it might be this weekend and all I can say is that we are hopeful. There is no question that we want to build the team around him and I would certainly hate to lose him.

Disappointed

"He is out of contract and counties have been free to talk to him, which two or three have done. We have made our own approach and he knows we have gone as far as we possibly can. I would be bitterly disappointed if he doesn't stay with us."

The Kent chairman was a proud man after watching the Spitfires shoot down Durham at St Lawrence on Monday, and with the club set to profit from the 8,000-strong crowd that packed into the ground the club's coffers could be set for another timely boost.

Victory against Somerset in the semi-final would net the Spitfires a place in the lucrative Champions League, something the side missed out on last season due to the regulations about using Indian Cricket League players.

Kennedy said: "I was certainly chuffed to see the ground so full on Monday and was pleased that it was a quiet evening with everything going right.

"It will certainly help the club as it was our first quarter-final at home, but we had to split half with Durham after costs, so they were naturally quite happy, too.

"Making the final would certainly go a long way to making up for the last two years of missing out on the Champions League."



PACKED: Thousands of fans watched Kent Spitfires in the Twenty20 Cup quarter-final at St Lawrence

County chief's bid for extra finals day tickets

TICKETS to see the Kent Spitfires at Twenty20 Cup finals day went on general sale yesterday.

Club members had priority booking for finals day, which takes place at Edgbaston on Saturday, August 15, with Kent set to take on the Somerset Sabres in the semi-final.

The Spitfires have been handed just 1,400 for the showpiece event, although the county are hopeful they may be able to get some more if they sell their allocation.

Club chairman George Kennedy said: "I'm very disappointed about the number of tickets we have got, but I know a lot of people have been buying them in advance. I am certainly hopeful that we will get some more that have come back from other counties."

• ***Tickets for the day cost £60 for adults and £20 for juniors and can be purchased by calling the club on 01227 456886 or visiting the St Lawrence ground in person.***

Praise for Spitfires' 'quiet men'

TWO of Kent's unsung heroes took centre-stage in Monday's Twenty20 Cup quarter-final and played their part in helping the Spitfires to finals day for the third year in a row, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

Seam bowler Simon Cook claimed miserly figures of 1 for 10 from his four overs, which also included a rare maiden, and ran out the dangerous Ian Blackwell with a direct hit.

Off-spinner James Tredwell, a product of the Kent system, scooped the man-of-the-match award with a stunning spell of 3 for 18 that left skipper Rob Key and coach Simon Willis insisting he wasn't far from an international call-up.

Key said: "Tredders has about 34 wickets in the championship, which I believe is a fair few more than Monty has in the same division, so Treddy shouldn't be far away."

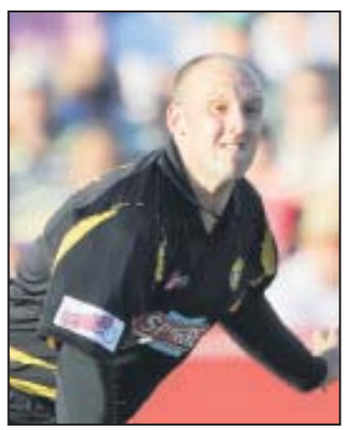
Willis said: "It's all about form. Treddy is knocking on the door and if you look across the country there aren't too many English spinners. He isn't doing himself any harm at all."

After a disappointing season last year which saw him dropped from the England Lions set-up, Tredwell has again hit the form that saw him named in the England one-day side in 2008.

Taking 6 for 27 against Middlesex in the Friends Provident Trophy and 8 for 66 against Glamorgan in the County Championship at the start of the summer set him on his way.

Willis also explained that former Kent spinner Min Patel has also helped reignite Tredwell's international ambitions.

Willis said: "Treddy put his hands up at the end of last year and admitted it wasn't good enough. Min Patel has a massive part to play in his good form. I asked him to come down and talk about the strategy of bowling spin rather than the technical side.





CONTRIBUTION: James Tredwell and Simon Cook made their presence felt as Kent Spitfires trounced Durham Dynamos to clinch Twenty20 finals day berth

"Treddy worked hard on some suggestions and is reaping the benefit. He is certainly doing that in the championship, while in one-day cricket he is Mr Consistency.

"He is a Kent lad and that makes it even more special for us as coaches to see players like that come through on the big stage."

Cook proved why he is such a valuable part of the Kent attack with another tight display of bowling against the Dynamos.

The 32-year-old wasn't used at all in championship cricket last season but has taken his chance this season and continues to be the perfect foil for the pace of Wayne Parnell and Amjad Khan in the Kent attack.

Key said: "Cooky has been an important part of our side for years and this year he is bowling really well in the championship.

"We hadn't seen a lot of him with the red ball for a couple of years, but he is bowling brilliantly for us now. It's so handy when you have blokes like that finding form.

"He keeps improving, which is a credit to him and because they are not the loudest and the most glamorous of cricketers, because they just go quietly about their business, doesn't mean they shouldn't be looked at."

House hangs tough to avoid a China crisis

Sprint ace overcomes altitude and bad food in gruelling race

WHILE Mark Cavendish and Bradley Wiggins were rewriting the record books in the Tour de France, the man who beat them to the British Road Race title was racing in a far-flung corner of China, trying to come to terms with altitude, celebrity and what can only politely be called food issues.

By **FRED ATKINS**

Canterbury's Kristian House was taking part in the punishing Tour of Qinghai.

"One of my team-mates passed out at dinner," House said on his return. "He had to go to hospital because there wasn't enough oxygen going into his brain. And you weren't really sure what you were eating.

"Next time we go there I'll take some packets of tuna and it sounds funny but we'll take our own rice and maybe a rice-cooker. One of our guys had to stop, but I managed to ride through it."

In that context, House's overall position of 77th, 1:1.39 down on the winner Andrey Mizurov, seems like an achievement.

The prologue was followed by three tough mountain stages and much of the race took place above 2,000 metres, a height the Tour de France only touched fleetingly on its highest mountain stages.

"At that kind of altitude you're breathing 40 per cent less oxygen than normal, so we went there with a different idea in mind than winning the race," House said. "It was really just to try to prepare for the rest of the season, the Tour of Ireland and especially the Tour of Britain."

The latter starts on Saturday, September 12, and House's Rapha-Condor team will fine-tune their preparations with a five-day stage race in France.

"Everything we're doing now is for that," he said. "We'd like to do well in France, but the main objective is the Tour of Britain. A lot of the Continental teams will be coming over and the level of racing is not something you can prepare for if you're just riding English races."

While the Grand Depart for the Tour de France was in Monaco this year, the British event starts in the marginally less enticing surroundings of Scunthorpe and heads off to Scotland and Exmoor before finishing in London.

The capital is the closest the race is likely to come to Kent for some time, according to House, who still has fresh memories of the 2006 fiasco, when the riders went the wrong way in Chatham Dockyard and staged a go-slow.

When House tried to attack out of Dover he was abused by some of his fellow riders – who then conveniently forgot their protest when the finish line was in sight.

"I don't think the Tour will come back to Kent for a while, which for me is disappointing because I have a lot of family there and it's ideal terrain for riding a bike," he reflected. "Hopefully it'll come back one day, because it was an ideal stage for me. The finish [on Rheims Way, Canterbury] didn't suit me at all, but I would have given it a go."



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

ALTITUDE: Kristian House raced above 2,000m, where riders breath less than 40 per cent the usual amount of oxygen

House admitted to being "overwhelmed" by the boost his profile has received since winning the national title but hasn't let the success, or those of the men he beat, affect his outlook on the sport.

"The race I won was a one-day race, so I don't think I'm a better rider than them. I've known those guys for years and I enjoyed watching them. For Cav to win six stages and Brad to finish fourth in the Tour de France was pretty awesome."



Picture: ADY KERRY

GOAL-SCORER: Simeon Jackson was the only Gills striker to hit double figures last season

We can't just rely on the little man, says Gills boss

GILLINGHAM kick off their League One campaign in less than a week, but manager Mark Stimson admits he will not be happy unless he can add another striker to his squad.

Recruiting a goalscorer was a key priority during the close season. Despite the club gaining promotion from League Two, Simeon Jackson was the only player to reach double figures last season as the Gills scored just 58 goals in 46 league games.

After giving up on Dagenham striker Paul Benson, Stimson renewed his interest in Charlton striker Chris Dickson this week, a move Addicks manager Phil Parkinson was quick to dismiss.

The Gills boss will spend the next few days chasing up on targets in a bid to be ready in time for next Saturday's game against Swindon Town.

"I think we've got to add someone because we can't rely on the little man [Jackson] to get the goals", he said. "We need someone to help him or be able to come off the bench to provide a goal threat.

"There are a couple out there at the moment who are possibilities. We're not just going to bring one in for the sake of it, they'd have to be better than what we have got and can be a plus to the team."

The club are also in negotiations for a player in a different position who they hoped would join in time for today's game at Crystal Palace.

Midfielder Rashid Yussuff is expected to sign his contract after being offered a deal last weekend, while Stimson will wait to see how serious Simon King's injury is before thinking about bringing in another centre-back on loan.

Duo win race to be fit for World Championships



RELAY HOPE: Sprinter Montell Douglas

KENT athletes Lisa Dobriskey and Montell Douglas have overcome their injury concerns and are included in the Great Britain team to compete at the World Athletics Championships this month.

Dobriskey's inclusion will have come as a relief to the 25-year-old Ashford 1,500-metre runner, who thought she would miss out on the championships due to a stress injury to her leg.

The injury picked up in May left Dobriskey, who finished fourth in the Beijing Olympics, in a race against time to get fit and she was unable to recover for the World Trials at Birmingham last month.

Missing the trials left her with one chance to impress the squad selectors at the London Grand Prix last weekend. Dobriskey finished third in front of her GB rivals Hannah England and Stephanie Twell, which prompted her call-up to the squad.

She told Kent on Sunday: "The last six months of my career has been the toughest for sure. It has been really hard to get back to full fitness after the injury. It has been so up and down coming off the back of Beijing. I have been targeting the World Championships ever since the Olympics and they are the most important thing for me this season."

With two weeks remaining before the championships, Dobriskey looks in ominous form as she recorded a season's best time of four minutes and two seconds at a meeting in Monaco this week.

Bromley sprinter Douglas, who has been plagued by injuries ever since the Beijing Olympics, has been included in a squad of six for the 4x100m.

The 23-year-old was hoping to be included in the 100m, but the Great Britain squad selectors have declined to enter any athletes in the event. The championships will give Douglas the chance to banish the memory of Beijing last summer, when she was part of the Olympic relay team who failed to get the baton round in the final.

The World Championships begin on August 15.



RELIEF AT SELECTION: Lisa Dobriskey



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BIG CHANCE: Paul Farbrace

COACH BRACED FOR KENT ROLE

Sri Lanka assistant to take over reins from Ford

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

PAUL Farbrace says the chance of being first-team coach at Kent and an opportunity to work with a successful county side is why he chose to quit as assistant coach of Sri Lanka.

The county's former Academy director will take over as Kent's head coach from next season but will join up with the squad on September 1 where he will work with the existing coaching staff for the remainder of the season.

Farbrace takes over from director of cricket Graham Ford, who will not return to St Lawrence next season, although the South African will still be used on a consultancy basis.

Coach Simon Willis will take up a new role – cricket operations and talent development manager – which means he will manage the club's second XI and help nurture more young players into the first-team.

Farbrace, who was approached to take over at St Lawrence while he was in England with the Sri Lanka team during the ICC World Twenty20 in June, said he couldn't wait to be reunited with the county.

Opportunity

Speaking from Sri Lanka's training camp, Farbrace told Kent on Sunday: "I am very pleased to get the opportunity as I think it is a good time to be coming back to county cricket and, more importantly, a great time in terms of where Kent Cricket Club are at.

"It's exciting as we have the nucleus of a good side and are on the verge of winning two competitions this season. It's not often you get a chance to go into a side that is doing so well."

The 42-year-old from Ash, near Sandwich, appeared as a wicketkeeper in 40 first-class games for Kent between 1987 and 1989 and Middlesex from 1990 to 1995. On retiring, he went into coaching, leading the England under-19 side and England Women in 2000 before taking over as Academy director at Canterbury.

He was then appointed assistant coach of Sri Lanka in 2007. His success as assistant to Trevor Bayliss prompted the Sri Lankan Cricket Board to offer him a new contract, which he turned down when he learned of Kent's interest, admitting it was too tempting to turn down.

"They tried to make an attractive offer to keep me in Sri Lanka, but for me the opportunity to be a first-team coach was too much, together with the lure of what Kent has to offer and to work with coaches at the club that I have previously," he said.

"It may look strange that I have come out of international cricket to go into county cricket, but it was all about making the right decision to help my career."

Farbrace was also keen to point out that he was looking forward to continuing a relationship with Ford when he returned to South Africa. He will also be working closely with Academy director Phil Relf to help the young players progress into the first-team and hopes his international experience with Sri Lanka will put him in good stead.

"I have got a lot of experience and learned a lot about myself as a person and as a coach and I feel I am coming back to Kent a more rounded coach," he said.

"The chance to be first-team coach rather than an assistant gives me a chance to put the things I have learned into practice. What I would stress, though, is that it's about continuing the work that Simon Willis, Graham Ford, Phil Relf and Rob Key have done, rather than coming in with lots of different ideas."

Farbrace has been in constant contact with Willis and Ford about potential new player targets for next season and expects to continue that when he returns to England on August 21.

Kent's chairman of cricket, Graham Johnson, said the club were disappointed to lose Ford but believed Farbrace was the ideal replacement.

He said: "We are naturally sorry that Graham cannot continue with the club next season but are delighted that Paul Farbrace has agreed to come back to Kent.

"This new and exciting structure is aimed at achieving our two key objectives of on-field success at first-team level and the all-important task of nurturing talent from within Kent into the professional game."

Pictures: ADY KERRY



RETURN: Wayne Parnell hopes to cap his spell at Kent by winning the Twenty20 Cup

Payback time for Parnell

WAYNE Parnell hopes to repay the faith Kent have shown in him by guiding the Spitfires to their second Twenty20 Cup triumph later this month.

The 20-year-old South African all-rounder has been cleared to play for the Spitfires at Twenty20 finals day on August 15 after successful discussions with Cricket South Africa led by Kent director of cricket Graham Ford.

Parnell was due to return to South Africa after Kent's championship game against Derbyshire, which ends tomorrow.

Now the impressive left-arm fast bowler is set to feature at finals day at Edgbaston.

He said: "The fact Kent have asked me back again is promising. We've built up a good relationship and I hope I can repay them at finals day by finishing off my time at Kent with a trophy."

After a stunning performance with the ball in Monday's T20 quarter-final, Parnell is eagerly anticipating another chance to impress in front of the packed stands at Edgbaston.

He said: "The boys have told me it's the most amazing day, so I am looking forward to it very much."

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